

STAGHORN SUMAC

Rhus typhina



Family:	Cashew
Native to:	Eastern North America
Hardiness Zones:	3 to 8
Bloom Time:	June- July
Height:	10 to 25 feet
Spread:	20 to 30 feet

DECIDUOUS SHRUB

Culture:

Easily grown in average, dry to medium moisture, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Tolerant of a wide range of soils except for those that are poorly drained. Generally tolerant of urban conditions.

It is noted for its ornamental fruiting clusters and excellent fall foliage color. Large, compound, odd-pinnate leaves are bright green above during the growing season. Leaves turn shades of yellow/orange/red in autumn. Flowers which bloom in terminal cone-shaped panicles in June-July, are tiny, greenish-yellow. Female flowers produce showy pyramidal fruiting clusters (to 8" long), with each cluster containing numerous hairy, berry-like drupes which ripen bright red in autumn, gradually turning dark red as they persist through much of the winter.

Did You Know?

Rhus typhina, is the largest of the North American sumacs. It is particularly noted for the reddish-brown hairs that cover the young branchlets in somewhat the same way that velvet covers the horns of a stag (male deer), hence the common name.

Fruit which hangs on during the winter is attractive to birds throughout the year. Honeybees are attracted to the flowers in spring.

Native Americans made a lemonade-like drink from the crushed fruit. The tannin-rich fruit, bark and leaves were used to dye and tan hides.