

## *Calycanthus floridus* L.

Eastern sweetshrub, Carolina allspice, Sweet shrub

Calycanthaceae (Sweetshrub Family)

USDA Symbol: CAFL22

USDA Native Status: Native to U.S.



Eastern sweetshrub or Carolina allspice is a 6-12 ft., deciduous shrub with glossy, aromatic, leathery, dark-green foliage. Its with erect, multiple stems create a rounded outline. Terminal blossoms are solitary and dark red with numerous overlapping, strap-like petals. Flower are often quite fragrant. Leaves become yellow in fall but are usually not showy.

*Calycanthus floridus* is very resistant to disease and insect problems. It has a prolific suckering habit, adapts to many soils, and grows taller in shaded places.

### PLANT CHARACTERISTICS

**Duration:** Perennial

**Habit:** Shrub

**Leaf Retention:** Deciduous

**Leaf Arrangement:** Opposite

**Leaf Complexity:** Simple

**Fruit:**

**Size Class:** 6-12 ft.

### BLOOM INFORMATION

**Bloom Color:** Red

**Bloom Time:** Apr , May , Jun , Jul

### DISTRIBUTION

**USA:** AL , CT , DC , DE , FL , GA , IL , KY , LA , MA , MD , MS , NC , NY , OH , PA , SC , TN , VA , WV

**Native Distribution:** S.e. PA to s.e. KY, generally s. to FL Panhandle & LA

**Native Habitat:** Wood openings & edges; stream banks; moist hillsides

**USDA Native Status:** L48(N)

### GROWING CONDITIONS

**Light Requirement:** Part Shade

**Soil Moisture:** Moist

**Soil Description:** Moist, deep loams.

**Conditions Comments:** *Calycanthus floridus* is very resistant to disease and insect problems. It has a prolific suckering habit, adapts to many soils and grows taller in shaded places. Transplanting nursery stock is tricky. Pamper after planting until new growth starts.

### PROPAGATION

**Description:** Propagate by seed, but watch for slugs on recently germinated plants. Great clonal variation exists in rootability but semi-hardwood cuttings from the right plant will root.

**Seed Collection:** Collect in fall to early winter.

**Commercially Avail:** yes