

Shrubby Cinquefoil

(Potentilla fruticosa)



Where does it grow? Shrubby cinquefoil grows at high to moderate altitudes in the mountains of eastern Oregon and the Siskiyou Mountains. It prevails along streams, seeps, springs, moist sub-alpine meadows, and sometimes in open timber.

Is it important? Not very. Shrubby cinquefoil has a relatively low palatability rating, from worthless to fairly good for sheep and big game. Heavy grazing of this plant may suggest overstocking and would cause depletion of more palatable plant species.

What does it look like? It is a perennial, bushy shrub. The dense, grayish-green, perennial leaves are divided into 3 to 7 crowded leaflets. The leaves and young stems are silky-hairy. Older stems are woody, with reddish-brown shredding bark. The golden yellow flowers appear in small clusters or are solitary in the leaf axils near twig ends.

Description:

Length of Life--Perennial.

Height--Normally 1 to 4 feet.

Growth Period--Late spring to mid-summer.

How does it spread--By seed.

Leaves--Alternate, leathery, evergreen, divided into from 3 to 7
oblong silky-hairy leaflets.

Stems--Freely branched, woody, tough and twisted, with shreddy
reddish-brown bark.

Flowers--Bright yellow, spreading, solitary or in small clusters,
blooming from June until the first frost. ,

Seeds--Very hairy, small and numerous.

Other Names--Hardhack, ninebark, yellow rose, buckbrush, and
bush cinquefoil.

Does it look like anything else? It is seldom confused with other
range plants.