Coffeeberry
*Frangula californica*

**Common Name:** Coffeeberry  
**Latin Name:** *Frangula californica*

**Plant Type:** Bush  
**Medium biodiversity value supporting birds and butterflies and moths:** 25+ species

**Description:** This shrub is called coffeeberry because it has seeds that look like coffee beans. Fairly common in California and southwest Oregon, coffeeberry is a dense evergreen shrub growing 6-15 feet tall with dark red branches. The leaves are attractive dark green with reddish tint, 1-3 inches long, with a curl under at the edges. The flowers are inconspicuous, small and greenish-white with five petals; they are produced in clusters of 5-60 together. The plant is prized more for its fruit, a berry 10-15 millimeters in diameter. This plant is beautiful and easy to grow. It tolerates a wide variety of soil types, and likes either full sun or part shade. It is OK with light summer water up to 2x per month. Coffeberry has a dense form and is easy to prune. It makes a great and fire resistant hedge.

**Size:** 6-15’ tall 5-15’ wide  
**Area to plant:** Full sun, part shade  
**Soil:** Tolerates a variety of soils  
**Soil PH:** 5.0 - 8.0 Medium drainage  
**Water:** Low to very low use  
**Interesting feature:**  
- Berries attract many bird species including thrushes, sparrows and thrashers  
- Provides nesting habitat

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