

CORNACEAE (Dogwood Family)
Order Cornales

Mostly trees and shrubs of temperate and subtropical regions. The very untypical herbaceous forms are common in Alaska however. Popular as ornamentals and for woodworking timber.

Leaves simple, lacking stipules, and variously arranged, but commonly opposite or whorled. Inflorescence terminal, often composed of an umbel or corymb of small flowers subtended by showy, petaloid bracts. Perianth 4 or 5-merous; sepals represented by small teeth, fused, or entirely absent, petals small and inconspicuous. Stamens 4 or five. Inferior ovary of 2 or 3 fused carpels. Fruit a cluster of berries or drupes.

Cornus (dwarf dogwood, and American dogwood)



Figure 8.102 Cornaceae. (A-E) *Cornus amomum*: (A) flowering branch (x 0.75); (B) flower (x 9); (C) flower in longitudinal section, with petals and stamens removed (x 9); (D) drupe (x 3); (E) pit in lateral view and from above (x 6). (F-H) *C. florida*: (F) flowering branch (x 0.75); (G) flower (x 6); (H) pit from lateral view and from above (x 6). (I) *C. nitida*: pit in lateral view and from above (x 6). From Ferguson 1966. J. Arnold Arbor. 47 p. 111)