

# Plant Data Sheet



Photograph by: Deanna Goldy, 2005

## ***Elliottia pyroliflorus***

### Taxonomy

**Family Scientific Name:** Ericaceae

**Family Common Name:** Heath

**Genus:** *Elliottia*

**Species:** *pyroliflorus*

**Common Name:** Copperbush

**Species Authority:** (Bong.) S.W. Brim & P.F. Stevens

#### **Common Synonym 1**

**Genus:** *Cladothamnus*

**Species:** *pyroliflorus*

**Species Authority:** Bong.

**Species Code as per USDA Plants Database:** ELPY

### General Information

**General Distribution:** *E. pyroliflorus* can be found in Southern Alaska, British Columbia west of the coast-cascade mountains, western Washington and northwest Oregon.<sup>3</sup>

**Climate and Elevation Range:** In British Columbia, the climate type is subalpine boreal and cool mesothermal.<sup>3</sup> *E. pyroliflorus* grows in a Pacific Maritime climate in saturated meadows and fields and around the edges of ponds and streams.<sup>1</sup>

**Local Habitat and Abundance:** This shrub grows in partial shade and in sandy or loamy, calciphile soils.<sup>1</sup> In the subalpine biogeoclimatic unit of British Columbia, *E. pyroliflorus* was associated with *Tsuga heterophylla*, *Chamaecyparis nootkatensis*, *Vaccinium ovatifolium*, *V. parvifolium*, *Rhododendron albiflorum*, *Blechnum spicant*, *Tiarella unifoliata* and *Arnica latifolia*.<sup>2</sup>

**Plant Strategy Type:** unknown

### Propagation Details

**Ecotype:** unknown

**Propagation Goal:** plants

**Propagation Method:** seeds

**Product Type:** container

**Stock Type:** unknown

**Time to Grow:** unknown

**Target Specifications:** unknown

**Propagule Collection:** unknown

**Propagule Processing and Characteristics:** unknown

**Pre-Planting Propagule Treatments:** unknown

**Growing Area Preparation/Annual Practices for Perennial Crops:** unknown

**Establishment Phase:** unknown

**Length of Establishment Phase:** unknown

**Active Growth Phase:** unknown

**Length of Active Growth Phase:** unknown

**Hardening Phase:** unknown

**Length of Hardening Phase:** unknown

**Harvesting, Storage and Shipping:** unknown

**Length of Storage:** unknown

**Guidelines for Outplanting/Performance on Typical Sites:** unknown

**Other Comments:** While some native plant nurseries do offer seeds, I couldn't find information related to the propagation or production of *E. pyroliflorus*. This is shame as *E. pyroliflorus* is one of the few genera endemic to western North America.<sup>4</sup> It's unusual copper-colored flowers are a lovely, delightful surprise around the bogs and ponds in our subalpine forests.

## Information Sources

### **Works Cited**

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.evergreen.ca/nativeplants/search/view-plant.php?ID=00220/>

<sup>2</sup> Green, R.N. and K. Klinka. A Field Guide for Site Identification and Interpretation for the Vancouver Forest Region: Land Management Handbook Number 28. Province of British Columbia: Ministry of Forests Research Program, 1994.

<http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfd/pubs/Docs/Lmh/Lmh28/lmh28-01.pdf/>

<sup>3</sup> E-Flora BC: Electronic Atlas of the Plants of British Columbia

<http://linnet.geog.ubc.ca/Atlas/Atlas.aspx?sciname=Elliottia%20pyroliflorus/>

<sup>4</sup> Pojar, Jim and Andy MacKinnon, comp. and ed. Plants of the Pacific Northwest Coast: Washington, Oregon, British Columbia and Alaska. British Columbia: Lone Pine, 1994.

### **Other Sources Consulted**

USDA, NRCS. 2007. The PLANTS Database (<http://plants.usda.gov>, 9 May 2007). National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, LA 70874-4490 USA.

<http://www.nativeplantnetwork.org>

<http://biology.burke.washington.edu/herbarium/collections/>

<http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/plants/shrub/>

**Compiled by:** Deanna Goldy

**Compiled on:** May 23, 2007