

Plant Propagation Protocol for *Lonicera dioica*
 ESRM 412 – Native Plant Production
 URL: <https://courses.washington.edu/esrm412/protocols/2025/LODI2.pdf>

North America Distribution (USDA)



TAXONOMY	
Plant Family	
Scientific Name	<i>Caprifoliaceae</i> Juss.
Common Name	Honeysuckle family
Species Scientific Name	
Scientific Name	<i>Lonicera dioica</i> L.
Varieties	<i>Lonicera dioica</i> L. var. <i>dasygyna</i> (Rehder) Gleason <i>Lonicera dioica</i> L. var. <i>glaucescens</i> (Rydb.) Butters <i>Lonicera dioica</i> L. var. <i>orientalis</i> Gleason <i>Lonicera glaucescens</i> (Rydb.) Rydb. var. <i>dasygyna</i> Rehder
Sub-species.	
Cultivar	N/A
Common Synonym(s)	<i>Lonicera glaucescens</i> (Rydb.) Rydb.
Common Name(s)	limber honeysuckle (USDA), glaucous honeysuckle, mountain honeysuckle, red honeysuckle, smooth-leaved honeysuckle (NCEG)
Species Code (as per USDA Plants database)	LODI2

GENERAL INFORMATION	
Geographical range	Native to subarctic America, including Canada and C. and E. United States. See map above for North America distribution.
Ecological distribution	Boggy areas; wet sites in coniferous and deciduous woods and thickets (NCEG)
Climate and elevation range	Thrives in high elevations in sunlight, in a variety of soil conditions (NCEG)
Local habitat and abundance	Seepages, bogs (including mountainous bogs at high elevations), rocky woods and thickets (Flora of the Southeastern United States)
Plant strategy type / successional stage	Based on the related <i>Lonicera japonica</i> , <i>L. dioica</i> is likely early successional, spreading in open habitats and also able to climb on other plants. (FEIS)
Plant characteristics (life form (shrub, grass, forb), longevity, key characteristics, etc.)	<p>A deciduous, vine-like woody shrub (3-10 ft) with perennial growth habits. Leaves are opposite and generally stalkless. Flower clusters (0.5-1 in) are deep red to maroon, occasionally yellow, with a tube and 2 lips. Flowers attract hummingbirds and are bee-pollinated (wildflower.org). Fruits (0.25-0.5 in) are reddish round or oval berries. (Minnesota Wildflowers)</p> <p>It is a low-climbing plant, with arching and twining branches that sprawl on nearby vegetation.</p>
PROPAGATION DETAILS (Young)	
Ecotype	-
Propagation Goal	Plant
Propagation Method	Seed
Product Type	Container (plug)
Stock Type	Deepot 40
Time to Grow	
Target Specifications	N/A
Propagule Collection Instructions	Handpick fruits for collection. <i>L. dioica</i> flowers early summer, so fruits are likely available around late summer to early fall, and will be red/orange when mature (wildflower.org)
Propagule Processing/Propagule Characteristics	Extract seeds through maceration (Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center).
Pre-Planting Propagule Treatments	Cold-moist stratification is necessary for seeds to germinate (NCEG). Soak seeds for 24 hours in fresh water, then stratify in peat or perlite for 1-3 months. (Young)
Growing Area Preparation / Annual	Grown in fully controlled greenhouse, using Sunshine Mix #4 Aggregate Plus (peat moss, perlite, nutrients, gypsum, dolomitic lime) as media.

Practices for Perennial Crops	
Establishment Phase Details	Seeds are sown into flats and covered with media. Temperatures should fluctuate daily between an 86 degree F day and a 68 degree F night (CES.NCSU). Seeds should germinate ~14 days after sowing, with about 50% success. 14 days after germination, seeds are transplanted to Deepot 40 containers with potting mix of peat moss, fir bark, perlite, and sand.
Length of Establishment Phase	4 weeks
Active Growth Phase	Fertilize one month after transplanting with Nutricote NPK (13-13-13). Prune 2 months after transplanting and as needed, always leaving at least 4 nodes.
Length of Active Growth Phase	N/A
Hardening Phase	N/A
Length of Hardening Phase	N/A
Harvesting, Storage and Shipping	N/A
Length of Storage	N/A
Guidelines for Outplanting / Performance on Typical Sites	N/A
Other Comments	There were no available protocols to compare to for <i>L. dioica</i> , so possible treatment techniques were based on another vine-type honeysuckle plant, <i>L. hispidula</i>

INFORMATION SOURCES

References	<p>United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). n.d. "<i>Lonicera dioica</i> L." Natural Resources Conservation Service. Accessed May 26, 2025. https://plants.usda.gov/plant-profile/LODI2</p> <p>North Carolina Extension Gardener (NCEG). n.d. "<i>Lonicera dioica</i>." Accessed May 26, 2025. https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/lonicera-dioica/</p> <p>Flora of the Southeastern United States. n.d. "<i>Lonicera dioica</i>." Accessed May 26, 2025. https://fsus.ncbg.unc.edu/show-taxon-detail.php?taxonid=4567</p> <p>Fire Effects Information System (FEIS). n.d. "Species: <i>Lonicera japonica</i>." United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Accessed May 26, 2025. https://www.fs.usda.gov/database/feis/plants/vine/lonjap/all.html#SUCCESSIONAL%20STATUS</p>
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	<p>Minnesota Wildflowers. n.d. “Lonicera dioica (Wild Honeysuckle).” Accessed May 26, 2025. https://www.minnesotawildflowers.info/shrub/wild-honeysuckle</p> <p>Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. n.d. “Lonicera dioica (Wild Honeysuckle).” University of Texas. Accessed May 26, 2025. https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=lodi2</p> <p>Young, Betty. 2001. “Propagation protocol for production of Container (plug) Lonicera hispidula Benth. plants Deepot 40.” USDA Native Plant Network. https://nnp.rngr.net/renderNPNProtocolDetails?selectedProtocolIds=caprifoliaceae-lonicera-629</p>
Other Sources Consulted	<p>Herrera, Michael. 2006. “Propagation protocol for production of Container (plug) Lonicera hispidula (Lindl.) Dougl. ex Torr. & Gray plants #1 Treepot (173 cubic inches).” USDA Native Plant Network. https://nnp.rngr.net/renderNPNProtocolDetails?selectedProtocolIds=caprifoliaceae-lonicera-3187</p>
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