Plant Propagation Protocol for *Rubus lasiococcus*

ESRM 412 – Native Plant Production

URL: https://courses.washington.edu/esrm412/protocols/*2026/RULA2.pdf*

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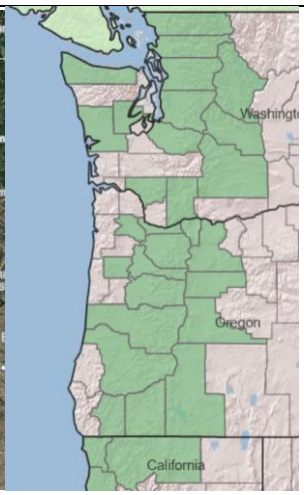
TAXONOMY	
Plant Family	
Scientific Name	*Rubus lasiococcus*
Common Name	Rose family
Species Scientific Name	
Scientific Name	*Rubus lasiococcus* Gray
Varieties	No recognized varieties
Sub-species	No recognized subspecies
Cultivar	No recognized cultivars
Common Synonyms	No recognized synonyms
Common Names	Dwarf bramble, roughfruit berry, roughfruit raspberry, creeping raspberry, hairy-fruit smooth dewberry
Species Code (as per USDA Plants database)	RULA2
GENERAL INFORMATION	

Geographical range	  iNaturalist Research Grade Observations USDA.gov
Ecological distribution	Occurs in subalpine forests in Oregon and Washington, with scattered populations on the southern edge of British Columbia and the northern edge of California.
Climate and elevation range	Middle to high elevations (Pojar)
Local habitat and abundance	Common in dense moist forests to less dense dry forests, thickets, clearings, and logged areas (Pojar) in the subalpine to alpine zones. Part of the Pacific Silver Fir - (Douglas-fir) / Thinleaf Huckleberry / Vanilla-leaf vegetation association (USNVC) Commonly associates with mountain hemlock (*Tsuga mertensiana*), Pacific silver fir (*Abies amabilis*), subalpine fir (*Abies lasiocarpa*), Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), twinflower (*Linnaea borealis*), partridgefoot lutkea (*Luetkea pectinata*), beargrass (*Xerophyllum tenax*), bead lily (*Clintonia uniflora*), , thinleaf huckleberry (*Vaccinium membranaceum*), one-sided wintergreen (*Orthilia secunda*), vanilla-leaf and deer's foot (*Achlys triphylla* and *Achlys californica*), and broadleaf lupine (*Lupinus latifolius*), ?Columbia lily (*Lilium columbianum*), showy phlox?, Claytonia cordifolia?, yarrow, Oregon boxwood, redwood violet (*Viola sempervirens*),
Plant strategy type / successional stage	Late successional species, but establishes in various levels of disturbance.
Plant characteristics	*Rubus lasiococcus* is a perennial, evergreen subshrub that grows to a height of 4 inches/10 cm.

	Fruit: *Rubus lasiococcus* has aggregate fruits, like those of raspberries or blackberries, and fruits of this species are densely hairy/puberulent. (Turner). Color of mature fruit ranges from white to red, and fruits are loose and soft at maturity. Fruits of this plant are spread by small animals. Flowers: Small, white, five-petaled flowers with long stalks. (1) Leaves: Leaves are alternate, Simple and three-lobed or compound with three leaflets. Not to be confused with five-leaved dwarf bramble (*Rubus pedatus*) or s
PROPAGATION DETAILS: FROM SEED	
Ecotype	There are no experimentally derived protocols to reference; this protocol is based on twinflower, lutkea, and species within the *Rubus* subgenus Cylactis. • Twinflower (*Linnaea borealis*) exhibits a similar growth form (spreading via stolons) and is often found alongside *Rubus lasiococcus*. • Lutkea (*Luetkea pectinata*), and PNW *Rubus* species.
Propagation Goal	Plants
Propagation Method	Seed
Product Type	Container (plug with firm roots)
Stock Type	800 mL pot; 4-inch container or 4.5 inch-deep pot
Time to Grow	Likely to be two years between sowing seeds and outplanting
Target Specifications	Firm root plug
Propagule Collection Instructions	Collecting ripe berries can be difficult due to frugivory. If collecting in the wild, consider identifying unripe fruit from late July-August and protecting them with mesh drawstring bags. Return to collect ripe fruits from mid-September to early October.
Propagule Processing/Propagule Characteristics	Separate seeds from berries by macerating and mashing berries or using a blender, then filtering pulp through a fine-mesh sieve or picking seeds out using tweezers. Use a 3:1 water-to-berry mixture. Store seeds in a refrigerated, dark, dry environment.
Pre-Planting Propagule Treatments	As a subalpine plant, *Rubus lasiococcus* likely requires cold moist stratification (indicating the passing of winter conditions) for seeds to germinate. Sow seeds in containers in fall for spring germination.

	Alternatively, keep seeds in a damp towel in a sealed container, like a plastic bag, refrigerate for up to six months, then plant. The optimal length of stratification is not known. Check occasionally to see if seeds have germinated in the towel. Consider using acid scarification (sulfuric acid or sodium hypochlorite treatment) to mimic digestion or mechanical scarification (rubbing with sandpaper) to mimic natural processes that weather the seed coat.
Growing Area Preparation / Annual Practices for Perennial Crops	*Rubus lasiococcus* prefers well-draining media. Use a mixture containing 10%-50% sand, 10-20% perlite or perlite substitute (pumice, rice hulls), 30-50% peat substitute (fine bark, coco coir, etc), and 10% compost. Try a 4:2:3:1 mix of sand, perlite/pumice/rice hulls, peat substitute, and compost. Add a small amount of slow-release fertilizer and micronutrients. *Linnaea borealis*
Establishment Phase Details	Keep seeds consistently moist until germination.
Length of Establishment Phase	Unknown
Active Growth Phase	Unknown
Length of Active Growth Phase	Unknown
Hardening Phase	Unknown (Irrigation is slowly reduced with time for 6 weeks for *Linnaea borealis*)
Length of Hardening Phase	Unknown (
Harvesting, Storage and Shipping	N/A (*Linnaea borealis*) takes 1.5 years to harvest in September and should be stored in an outdoor nursery that is insulated and protected from snow. Not much is known about the tolerance of *Rubus lasiococcus* to freezing conditions while in containers.
Length of Storage	N/A
Guidelines for Outplanting / Performance on Typical Sites	Plant after snow has melted or when rains begin in early fall. Ensure that roots stay intact when planting
Other Comments	Contact me at alexandertmclean@hotmail.com if you successfully grow this from seed :)
PROPAGATION DETAILS: VEGETATIVE	
Ecotype	There are no experimentally derived protocols to reference; this protocol is based on strawberry (*Fragaria* spp) and twinflower (*Linnaea borealis*)

Propagation Goal	Stolon cuttings
Propagation Method	Vegetative
Product Type	Container (plug)
Stock Type	800-1000 mL pot; 4-inch container
Time to Grow	Unknown
Target Specifications	Firm root plug; 2-3 runners, 15 cm long, height of 2.5 cm (LIBO ref 9)
Propagule Collection Instructions	*Rubus lasiococcus* spreads vegetatively, sending out long runners which develop leaves and roots at nodes along the stem. Nodes without roots can be prompted to root by ensuring soil contact and adequate warmth. Collect cuttings by clipping unrooted segments of the stolons using sharp, clean pruners or clippers. *Rubus lasiococcus* stolons can be collected throughout the year if struck (planted) in sufficiently warm conditions. Taking long stolon cuttings allows multiple nodes to develop roots, which can each be divided into genetically identical clones. For higher genetic diversity, consider taking short cuttings (two-three nodes, 10-15 cm) from many plants instead of long cuttings (>three nodes) from few plants.
Propagule Processing/Propagule Characteristics	Keep cuttings in a dark, moist, and cool environment prior to treatment.
Pre-Planting Propagule Treatments	Dip cuttings in a mild bleach solution for 30 seconds and treat with IBA rooting powder. Strike cuttings in flats containing a 3:1 perlite/vermiculite mix.
Growing Area Preparation / Annual Practices for Perennial Crops	Keep out of direct sun Collect long cuttings with many nodes (>15 cm/6 in, >three nodes/stolon) and strike in a flat, shallow tray or a vegetative propagation bed. Once roots develop, cut the stolons and transplanted the rooted sections into the final containers. Plants propagated from the same stolon will be genetically ident. Collect short cuttings (1-3 nodes). These can be placed into flat, shallow trays with propagation media or placed directly into the final containers Cut stolons into 4 inch/10 cm lengths (or the width of the pot) if planting directly into pots. Ensure that each section has at least one unrooted node. More success may be had if sections contain two or three nodes. Avoid removing roots of wild plants.

	Alternatively, cut stolons *Rubus lasiococcus* prefers well-draining media. Try a 4:2:3:1 mix of sand, perlite or rice hulls, peat substitute (coco coir, bark [<1/2"]), and compost. *Rubus lasiococcus* develops relatively deep roots, but as it does not grow a taproot, wider containers should be chosen for ease of planting.
Establishment Phase Details	
Length of Establishment Phase (time from seeding to germination)	Unknown (8 weeks for *Linnaea borealis*)
Active Growth Phase (cultural practices from germination until plants are no longer actively growing)	*Linnaea borealis*: 30 cm cuttings, separated and planted in 800 mL plugs with well-draining media of 50% well-fertilized sand and 50% 6:1:1 milled sphagnum peat, perlite, and vermiculite. Use a mixture containing 10%-50% sand, 10-20% perlite/pumice/rice hulls, 30-50% peat substitute (fine bark, coco coir, etc), and 10% compost. Try a 4:2:3:1 mix of sand, perlite, peat substitute (coco coir, fine bark) and compost. Add a small amount of slow-release fertilizer and micronutrients.
Length of Active Growth Phase	Unknown (16 weeks for *Linnaea borealis*)
Hardening Phase (cultural practices from end of active growth phase to end of growing season; primarily related to the development of cold-hardiness and preparation for winter)	Unknown (6 weeks for *Linnaea borealis*)
Length of Hardening Phase	
Harvesting, Storage and Shipping	
Length of Storage	
Guidelines for outplanting /	

Performance on Typical Sites (e.g., percent survival, height or diameter growth, elapsed time before flowering)	
Other Comments (including collection restrictions or guidelines, if available)	It may be wroxisting patches of *Rubus lasiococcus*
INFORMATION SOURCES	
References (full citations)	U.S. National Vegetation Classification Database USDA https://plants.sc.egov.usda.gov/plant-profile/RULA2 Jepson eFlora Database Turner, M. and P. Gustafson. 2006. Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest. Portland, OR: Timber Press. https://courses.washington.edu/esrm412/protocols/2009/LIBO3.pdf Observational experience - Alexander McLean https://burkeherbarium.org/imagecollection/taxon.php?Taxon=Rubus%20lasiococcus https://homegarden.cahnr.uconn.edu/factsheets/strawberries/ https://npn.rngr.net/npn/propagation/protocols/caprifoliaceae-linnaea-1478/ https://npn.rngr.net/npn/propagation/protocols/caprifoliaceae-linnaea-48/ Hitchcock, C L, and Arthur Cronquist. Flora of the Pacific Northwest: An Illustrated Manual. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1973. Print Plants of the Pacific Northwest Coast
Other Sources Consulted (little/no info found)	Reforestation, Nurseries, & Genetic Resources (npn.rngr.net)
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