

# Dogwood (*Cornus sanguinea*)

Dominion: [Eukaryota](#)

[Kingdom](#): [Plantae](#)

[Divisioe](#): [Magnoliophyta](#)

Classe: [Magnoliopsida](#)

Order: [Cornales](#)

Family: [Cornaceae](#)

Genus: [Cornus](#)

[Species](#): *C. sanguinea*



The **Common Dogwood** (*Cornus sanguinea*) is a species of dogwood native to most of Europe and western Asia, occurring north to southern England and southern Scandinavia, and east to the Caspian Sea.

It is a medium to large deciduous shrub, growing 2–6 m tall, with dark greenish-brown branches and twigs.

The **leaves** are opposite, 4–8 cm long and 2–4 cm broad, with an ovate to oblong shape and an entire margin; they are green above, slightly paler below, and rough with short stiff pubescence.



The hermaphrodite **flowers** are small (5–10 mm diameter), with four creamy white petals, produced in clusters 3–5 cm diameter, and are insect pollinated.



The **fruit** is a globose black berry 5–8 mm diameter, containing a single seed. The berries are called **dogberries**. Dogberries are eaten by some mammals and many birds.



The straight woody shoots produced by the plant which can be used as prods, skewers or arrows. The prehistoric archer known as Ötzi the Iceman, discovered on the border between Italy and Austria in 1991 was carrying arrows made from dogwood.