

Blackberry

Rubus spp.

Life cycle: Deciduous perennial, with biennial canes (live only two years).

Leaves: Alternate, compound, with 3 to 7 elliptical shaped leaflets with serrated margins.

Stems: Green to brown with prominent spines.

Flowers and fruit: Flowers are somewhat showy with five white petals, formed on short branches on second year canes. Fruits are attractive aggregates of small black drupes with prominent seeds, maturing in mid to late summer.

Reproduction: Plants spread laterally from buds on lateral roots. Birds eat the berries and disperse seeds widely.

Similar weeds

Several *Rubus* species are common weeds in blueberries. They can vary in habit from vigorous and upright to trailing. Common names include brambles, blackberries and dewberries.



Eric Hanson