ELAEAGNACEAE
Shepherdia canadensis (L.) Nutt.
Shca

buffaloberry, soapberry

FORM: Unarmed, spreading, medium shrub, 1-4m (3-13ft) tall.

STEMS: Older stems brownish, young stems covered with reddish-brown scales; round, reddish-brown, continuous, pith.

BUDS: Opposite, naked, stalked, russet colored buds (1).

LEAVES: Opposite, deciduous, entire, ovate, 2-6cm (1-2in) long, dark greenish on upper surface with whitish silvery hair and rusty-brown scales on lower surface (2).

FLOWERS: 1-several, small yellowish, 1-2mm long clustered in leaf axils, appearing with or before the leaves; male and female flowers are borne on separate bushes (dioecious); May-July.

FRUIT: Orange to red, juicy, translucent berry.

NOTES: Indian name is soopolallie (soap berry); crushed berries yield a soapy frothy drink and also makes a jelly.