**Moraceae** Link

Mulberry Family

**Shrub or small trees** deciduous. **Leaves** alternate but sometimes clustered with inflorescences on short shoots; stipules shedding at an early age. **Inflorescences** erect or pendent unisexual catkins. **Flowers** unisexual. **Staminate flowers** stamens equal in number to sepals or calyx lobes, opposite them; anthers 1-2 locular. **Pistillate flowers** sepals or calyx lobes 4, more or less connate; pistils 1; ovary 1, superior, 2-loculed; ovules 1 per locule. **Fruits** multiple syncarps, individual achenes.

Approximately 40 genera.

1 genus in Oregon.

*Maclura pomifera* is cultivated as an ornamental throughout Oregon. This species may escape and become naturalized in the future, but as of yet no evidence to this has been found.

*Morus* L.

Mulberry

E

**Shrub or small trees** dioecious or monoecious; sap milky. **Leaf** blades broadly ovate, often cordate. **Inflorescences** cylindrical. **Staminate flowers**: sepals 4-5. **Pistillate flowers** green, style two branched, branches linear. **Fruits** achenes covered by a fleshy calyx.

10 species.

1 species in Oregon.

*Morus alba* L.

White mulberry, Russian mulberry, silkworm mulberry

E

**Shrub or small trees** 3-15 m. **Bark** brown tinged with red or yellow, furrowed with narrow ridges. **Leaves**: stipules ovate to lanceolate, 5-9 mm, pubescent; petioles 2.5-5 cm; short-pubescent; leaf blades variable, entire with margins coarsely serrate or crenate to deeply and
irregularly lobed, major lobes 0-3, sometimes only on one side. **Flowers:** staminate catkins 2.5-4 cm; pistillate catkins 5-8 mm. **Staminate flowers** distinct, green with red tips, approximately 1.5 mm. **Pistillate flowers:** style 0.5-1 mm; stigma papillose; ovary green, approximately 2 mm. **Fruits** achenes light brown, ovoid, 2-3 mm; fleshy calyx red when immature, becoming black or purple or nearly white, cylindrical, 1.5-2.5 x 1 cm.

Disturbed areas, woodland borders, fencerows, dry to moist thickets.

Bake, Clat, Gill, Harn, Klam, Malh, Morr, Mult, Sher, Umat, Wall, Wasc, Whee; ID, WA; most of eastern half of United States; east Asia.

*Morus alba* is cultivated, in some parts of the world, as a food for silkworms. Some older floras segregate *M. nigra* from *M. alba* based on a darker fruit color.