

QUALITY CONTROL:

Handling:

- Wash hands before harvesting or handling Red Osier Dogwood.

Harvesting and processing:

- Harvesting Red Osier Dogwood can be done any time of the year.

Drying process:

- Do not harvest from any stems smaller than ½ inch thick.
- Prepare for bark removal in a clean area.
- Peel bark on to a clean tarp.
- Using a potato peeler or sharp knife.
- Remove only inner and outer bark
- Make sure you do not leave wood on the bark
- Spread the bark to dry in thin layers on screens or tarp turning as it dries
- Use a fan to move air

Storage Technique:

- Product should be stored in a clean poly woven rice bag, paper bag, paper box, or clean container.
- Dirty containers will not be accepted and the product in it maybe rejected
- Store in a dry room away from moisture
- Do not store in a shed that has been used for storing gas and oil.

BUYING REQUIREMENTS (THIS IS INTENDED TO PROVIDE GENERAL STANDARDS. REQUIREMENTS MAY VARY FROM BUYER TO BUYER. PLEASE CONFIRM WITH YOUR BUYER BEFORE HARVESTING):

- Producers must have a wild harvesters association Membership Card.
- General harvest area.
- No foreign smell (ex: gas, oil)
- No foreign material (ex: Different kinds of bark, dirt, rocks)
- No mould.

All bags, boxes and containers may be inspected to determine if product meets a buyers specifications.

PRICING:

- Call NFDC prior to shipping or traveling to buying depot.



Northern Forest Diversification Centre

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NORTHERN FOREST DIVERSIFICATION CENTRE INFORMATIONAL BROCHURE (FROM HARVESTING PRACTICES)

RED OSIER DOGWOOD



HARVESTING RED OSIER DOGWOOD

SCIENTIFIC NAME:

- *Cornus stolonifera*

CREE NAME:

- Mikwa piskaw (“Red Wood”)

COMMON NAMES:

- Red Willow
- Kinnikinnick
- Dogberry Tree

PLANT SPECIES IDENTIFICATION:

Flowers

- 5 cm across, small flat top clusters
- Dull White
- Late May to early July

Fruit

- 6 cm in diameter in round clusters
- Dull white
- Maturing August—September

Leaves

- Opposite, simple, accurately veined
- 15—8 cm long
- Somewhat narrow
- Green above, pale below

Plant Reproduction:

Blooms late May to early July

By seed

- Roots or stolons
- Base of aerial stems

Habitat:

- Dry to wet forests
- Poorly drained soils
- Margins or wetlands
- Roadsides

What is harvested:

Stems

Outer bark

Inner bark

PRODUCT USES:

- Coughs and Fever
- Wreaths
- Tobacco extender (mixed)
- Dyes
- Weaving

Indigenous **Uses:**

- The Cree drink it like tea as an emetic in coughs and fevers. (*emetic - to induce vomiting*)
- The Northern Cree mixes dried leaves with the bark of red-osier dogwood as a tobacco extender.
- The Cree use the red bark to make a red dye.
- The Cree also use the stems to weave baskets.

SPECIES SUSTAINABILITY:

Practice sustainable harvesting, by not over harvesting in one area.

HARVESTER CERTIFICATION:

- **NFDC** is working on providing organic certification on selective NTFP'S in each community harvest area.
- **Buyers may not purchase** Red Osier Dogwood from producers who does not follow the **HARVESTERS CODE OF ETHICS (Copy available at the NFDC Centre).**