

Autumn + Russian olive look alike

Autumn olive (*Elaeagnus umbellata*) and Russian olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*) are characterized by the metallic sheen on their leaves and stems. They are most easily confused with buffaloberries (*Shepherdia spp.*), especially silver buffaloberry (*Shepherdia argentea*).



Autumn olive leaves

Species	Branching	Leaves
Russian olive (<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>)	Alternate	Both upper and lower surface of leaves covered in silvery scales . Upper may be less densely covered.
Autumn olive (<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i>)	Alternate	Lower surface of leaves covered in silvery scales . Upper surface dark glossy green; sometimes with sparse scattering of silvery scales.
Buffaloberry / Soapberry (<i>Shepherdia spp.</i>)	Opposite	S. <i>argentea</i> with silvery scales on both sides of leaves. S. <i>canadensis</i> dark green on upper surface with rusty scales on lower surface.