

Cornelian Cherry - *Cornus mas*



The Cornelian Cherry can be spotted in the early Spring when it has yellow flowers and in Autumn when it bears red berries.

Cornelian Cherry is a species of Dogwood - sometimes called Male Dogwood (although it is monoecious).

It is not a native British plant so these must be garden escapees - perhaps from berries brought in by birds or seeds in the bird droppings. If so it is likely that there will be more plants elsewhere in the wood.

The circumstances under which we discovered the two known plants are very strange. In the first week of 2021 one of the members of FSW noticed two instances of red tape wrapped around twigs in the hedgerow of Field 1. She reported these via the FSW Facebook group, enquiring as to what they might be. On further investigation both of the red tapes appeared to be on specimens of Cornelian Cherry - identified using a phone app. The flowers are just visible at the top of the original photo. We still do not know who wrapped the tape or why.



Both photos were taken in the first week of January 2021.

The plant is grown in gardens for its yellow flowers in winter and red berries in the autumn. We shall keep an eye on these plants noting when foliage and berries appear and look out for further specimens.

Cornelian cherry, a species of Dogwoods

Also known as: Male dogwood,
Cornelian cherry dogwood,
European cornel

Botanical name: *Cornus mas*



PictureThis
Instantly identify your plants.

Take a winter walk to look for both known plants. Can you find any others?

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