

PLANT LOOK-ALIKES

Blackberry and *Rubus* Plants in the Fraser Valley



Updated: September 2025

HIMALAYAN BLACKBERRY

Rubus armeniacus

INVASIVE

- Arching canes that can form a dense thicket
- **Fruits August to September**

CUTLEAF BLACKBERRY

Rubus laciniatus

INVASIVE

- Ascending or arching stems that also trail along the ground
- **Fruits August to September**

SALMONBERRY

Rubus spectabilis

NATIVE

- Erect sometimes arching stems that can form thickets
- **Fruits May to June**

THIMBLEBERRY

Rubus parviflorus

NATIVE

- Erect sometimes arching stems that can form thickets
- **Fruits June to July**

TRAILING BLACKBERRY

Rubus ursinus

NATIVE

- Trailing along the ground
- **Fruits June to July**

BLACKCAP RASPBERRY

Rubus leucodermis

NATIVE

- Also called whitebark raspberry
- Arching canes, often growing on it's own.
- **Fruits June to July**

LEAVES



- 3 - 5 leaflets (5 on first year canes, 3 on flowering canes)
- Egg shaped leaves
- Prickly on underside



- 5 leaflets
- Deeply and jaggedly lobed leaves. Sometimes further divided into leaflets.
- Prickly on underside



- 3 leaflets
- Egg shaped leaves
- No prickles on leaves



- Not divided into leaflets
- Fuzzy mapleleaf shaped leaves
- No prickles on leaves



- 3 leaflets
- Egg shaped leaves
- Prickly on underside
- Leaves sometimes purplish, especially in winter



- 3, occasionally 5 leaflets
- Egg shaped leaves
- Prickly on underside

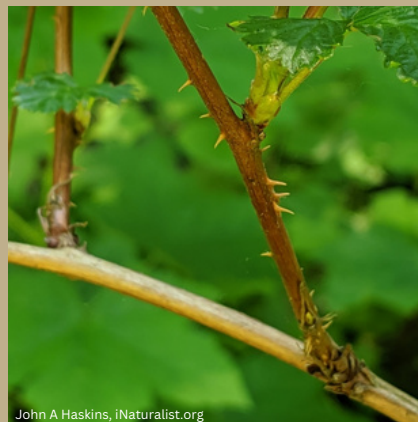
STEMS



- Green or reddened from the sun
- Curved thorns



- Green or reddened from the sun
- Curved thorns



- Bark on older stems is brown
- Stems have some to no prickles



- Bark on older stems is brown/gray
- Stems don't have prickles



- Waxy coating making stems blue/grey
- Some prickles



- Waxy coating making stems blue/grey
- Prickly

FRUIT AND FLOWERS



- White, occasionally pinkish flowers
- Black fruits



- White, occasionally pinkish flowers
- Black fruits



- Bright pink flowers
- Orange or red fruits



- White flowers
- Red fruits



- White flowers
- Black fruits



- White flowers
- Black fruits

REFERENCES

- [Metro Vancouver Best Management Practices - Himalayan Blackberry](#)
- [Sea to Sky Invasive Species Council - Invasive Berry Foraging](#)
- [Backyard Habitats - Himalayan and Evergreen Blackberry](#)
- [E-Flora BC](#)