

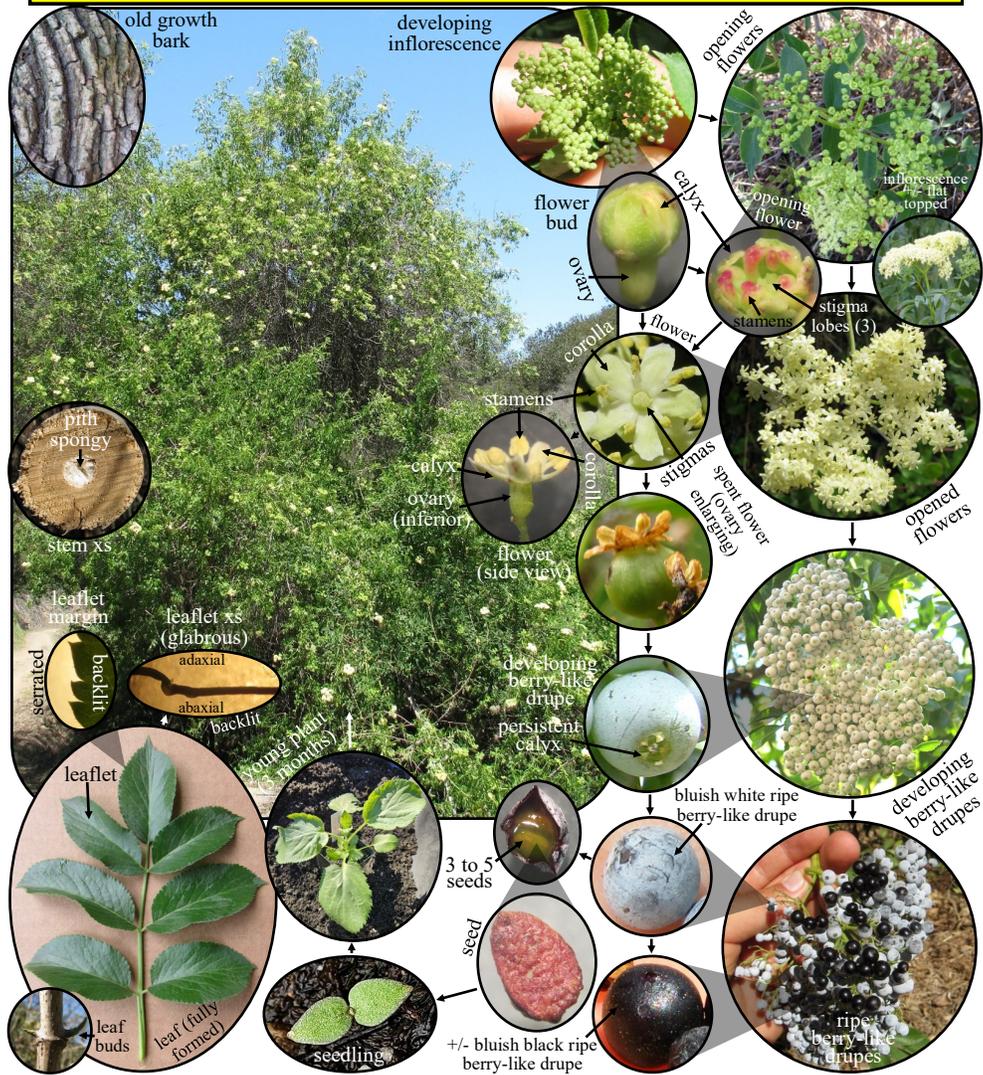
Mexican Elderberry (*Sambucus mexicana*)

Order: Dipsacales

Family: Viburnaceae (Elder Family)

Flowers: March - September

Sambucus mexicana is a large shrub to tree. It is found throughout the peninsula mostly along canyons, where it can form large trees. The leaves are odd-pinnately compound with 3 to 9 leaflets that are elliptic to ovate and have margins toothed. Leaflets can be glabrous to hairy. The pith of the stems is large and spongy. Flowers are clustered together in a flat-topped inflorescence. The calyx is small and green. The corolla is generally spreading and creamy yellow. Stamens alternate with the petals and there are 3 to 5 stigma lobes. The fruit is a berry-like drupe that can range in color from black to bluish white (bluish white color from a dense white powder). The seed is small and textured. It is winter deciduous.



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overall plant in full fruit



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Sambucus mexicana plants found in canyons on the peninsula can reach massive tree size. In addition, old growth bark that is deeply furrowed of *S. mexicana* on the peninsula can host many species of epiphytic organisms such as fungi, mosses, liverworts, and lichens.



old growth bark that is deeply furrowed can host bryophytes, lichens & fungi