

Texas Persimmon

The Texas persimmon is a semi-evergreen shrub in the Ebony family, easy to recognize with its smooth gray bark. The simple oval alternate leaves are leathery on top and fuzzy underneath. It has white flowers which soon become green, and then purplish-black fruits, which make a sweet jelly and are a favorite for a variety of wildlife. It is dioecious with male and female trees and the wood was used for furniture, piano keys and tool handles. The juice was used for dyes and it is the host plant for the Gray hairstreak and Henry's Elfin butterflies.

