

Southern Michigan Succession Shrub Community

The Shrub Community is characterized by woody stemmed shrubs. A single plant often has new plants that develop out from the root as an invader. This community ranges from 2 to 5 meters in height. The Shrub Community lasts for 16 to 20 years.

Shrub Communities tend to be more like food chains than food webs with each community basically dominated by one species of shrub. A shrub is a woody stemmed plant that remains low and produces shoots or trunks from the base. A mature shrub is often as wide as it is tall. . The developed shrub community usually has a dense canopy that shades out most of the other plants except for young trees. A canopy is a network of branches formed by the neighboring shrubs or trees over the communities below.

The plants and animals that are examples of this community in Southern Tuscola County include:

PLANTS	ANIMALS
Apple, <i>Pyrus malus</i>	Brown thrasher, <i>Taxostoma rufum rufum</i>
Asparagus, <i>Asparagus officinalis</i>	Cardinal, <i>Richmondia cardinalis</i>
Barberry, <i>Berberis sp.</i>	Cat bird, <i>Dumtella carolinensis</i>
Black nightshade, <i>Solanum bulcamara</i>	Chickadee, <i>Parus atricapillus</i>
Blackberry, <i>Rubus allegheniensis</i>	Field sparrow, <i>Spizella pusilla</i>
Blueberry, <i>Vaccinium augustifolium</i>	Grub, <i>Phyllophaga sp.</i>
Bristly black currant, <i>Ribes lacustre</i>	Morning dove, <i>Zenaidura Macroura</i>
Buttonbush, <i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	Pillbugs, Porcellionidae
Elderberry, <i>Sambucus pubens</i>	Song sparrow, <i>Melospiza melodia</i>
Gooseberry, <i>Ribes grossularaia</i>	Sowbugs, Oniscidae
Hazelnut, <i>Corylus cornuta</i>	Spider, <i>Liphistus sp.</i>
Honeysuckle, <i>Lonicera sp.</i>	Starnosed mole. <i>Condylura cristata</i>
Huckleberry, <i>Gaylussacia brachyeera</i>	Wood cock, <i>Philohela minor</i>
Leather leaf, <i>Chamaedaphne calyculata</i>	Yellow warbler, <i>Dendroica petechia</i>
Missouri gooseberry, <i>Ribes missouriense</i>	White breasted nuthatch, <i>Sitta carolinensis</i>
Muscadine grape, <i>Vitis rotundifolia</i>	
Oswego tea, <i>Monarda didyma</i>	
Pasture Gooseberry, <i>Ribes cynosbatl</i>	
Poison ivy, <i>Rhus radicans</i>	
Raspberry, <i>Rubus strigosus</i>	
Red osier dogwood, <i>Cornus stolonifera</i>	
Red panicle dogwood, <i>Cornus racemosa</i>	
Rose, <i>Rosa multiflora</i>	
Spiraea, <i>Spiraea alba</i>	
Staghorne sumac, <i>Rhus typhina</i>	
Virginia creeper, <i>Parthenscissus quinquefolia</i>	
Wild black current, <i>Ribes americanum</i>	

Southern Michigan Succession Intolerant Tree Community

The Intolerant Tree Community is characterized by trees which grow best in the sunlight with shrubs of the Shrub Community underneath them. In other words, they are intolerant of shade. They produce little or no canopy.

This stage takes 5 to 50 years to develop. On abandoned crop lands, these trees may be seen 20 to 25 years after the land is abandoned thus skipping earlier stages. This stage can last 50 years.

On good soil this community may not occur at all, and more advanced tree stage will invade instead. In such a case, the plants and animals of the Intolerant Tree Community would not appear at all.

On poor soil, or in areas of poor drainage, the Intolerant Tree Community may sometimes be the Climax Community.

The plants and animals which are examples of this community in Southern Tuscola County include:

PLANTS	ANIMALS
Apple, <i>Pyrus malus</i>	Chipmunk, <i>Tamias striatus</i>
Bigtooth aspen, <i>Populus grandidentata</i> Choke cherry, <i>Prunus virginiana</i>	Least weasel, <i>Mustela rixosa</i>
Black cherry, <i>Prunus serotina</i>	Opossum, <i>Didelphis marsupialis</i>
Black raspberry, <i>Rubus occidentalis</i>	Ruffed grouse, <i>Bonasa umbellus</i>
Black willow, <i>Salix nigra</i>	Soil centepede
Boxelder, <i>Acer Negundo</i>	Towhee, <i>Pipilo erythrophthalmus</i>
Cottonwood, <i>Populus heterophylla</i>	White footed mouse, <i>Peromyscus leucopus</i> Rafinesque
Eastern juniper, <i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	
Hawthorn, <i>Crataegus</i> sp.	
Interrupted fern, <i>Osmunda claytoniana</i>	
Peach leaf willow, <i>Salix amygdaloides</i>	
Quaking aspen, <i>Populus tremuloides</i>	
Red maple, <i>Acer rubrum</i>	
Red mulberry, <i>Morus rubra</i>	
Sensitive fern, <i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>	
Soft maple, <i>Acer sacharina</i>	
Speckled alder, <i>Alnus rugosa</i>	
Tartarian honeysuckle, <i>Lonicera tatarica</i>	
Virgins bower, <i>Clematis virginiana</i>	
White birch, <i>Betula papyrifera</i>	