

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Smilacina racemosa

False Spikenard



Also called false Solomon's seal. Arching stems with alternate, oval, pointed leaves and plumes of creamy white flowers in May-June (the flowers are a bit like astilbes). Clusters of berries follow the flowers, ripening from green- and brown-speckled to bright red. In the fall, the foliage turns yellow.

Suggested companions: It can be planted in clumps with other woodland wildflowers, such as Jack-in-the-pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*), blue cohosh (*Caulophyllum thalictroides*), wild geranium (*Geranium maculatum*).

Photo Credit: © William S. Justice. USDA, NRCS 1999. The PLANTS database (<http://plants.usda.gov/plants>). National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, LA 70874-4490 USA

Plant Type: Wildflower

Size: 1'-3' H
W

Water Tolerant: No

Habitat:

Forested Upland
Woodland Margin

Soil: Average Garden Soil
Rich Moist

Exposure: filtered
shade

Flower Color:
White

Plant in:

Groundcover: No

Bloom Time:
May
June

Other Attributes:
Bird attracting