

Fragrant Sweet Box



- **Fragrant Flowers in Spring**
- **Deep Green Evergreen Shrub Grows in Dry Shade**
- **Easy-Care and Hardy with correct conditions**
- **Urban Tolerant**
- **Bird Friendly, but Deer Resistant**

Sarcococca ruscifolia

- **Use:** The unique blooms have a jasmine-like fragrance and are favored by early pollinators. Shiny evergreen foliage keeps the shade garden looking lush year-round. Perfect for gardeners who need to fill in a shady border or want to expand their pollinator gardens into unused spaces. Does well in those challenging north-facing spots in shade. It handles urban conditions, such as compacted soils (not clay), road salt and smog. Use in foundation plantings, in containers, or near a path or doorway you use often so you can enjoy the scent
- **Exposure/Soil:** *WHILE WE LOVE SARCOCOCCOCCA- IT IS NOT A PLANT FOR BEGINNERS. THEY MUST HAVE GOOD SOIL AND EXCELLENT DRAINAGE. MORNING SUN/AFTERNOON SHADE IS ALSO A MUST IN GA.* Follow a regular watering schedule during the first growing season to establish a deep, extensive root system. Honestly, without an irrigation system you can lose them in the summer. Feed with a general purpose fertilizer before new growth begins in spring. Soil must be amended with a rich organic matter or peat based soil. **Will not tolerate red clay.** For a tidy, neat appearance, shear annually to shape. Prune after blooms have faded. Be gentle with rootball when transplanting.
- **Growth:** Slow growing to 3-5' tall and wide.
- **Hardiness:** Zone 7-9; Shrub
- **Foliage:** Evergreen. It has rich evergreen leaves that cover the bush all year. This variety has larger and broader leaves than other selections.
- **Flower:** The unusual thread-like white flowers have a delightful fragrance, similar to jasmine, and are an important food source for early pollinators. Hyacinth-like scent. In some areas, a very attractive, glossy red fruit will develop in late summer. Local songbirds love the little berries that develop against the dark green foliage. Berries hang on plants for months before birds enjoy them in fall and winter.