PLANT FACT SHEET

Vaccinium deliciosum Piper

GENUS *Vaccinium* **FAMILY** Ericaceae

COMMON NAMES Alpine blueberry, Blue huckleberry, Cascade bilberry, Rainier bilberry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The ripe fruit are eaten fresh. They are stewed and made into a sauce. The fruit are canned and used as winter food.
They can be dried and stored.

DESCRIPTION

A small shrub. It forms tufted mats. They are usually 10-30 cm high. It spreads by rhizomes. The young twigs are grey-green and rounded. The leaves are 15-30 mm long and 5-8 mm wide. There are broad teeth on the upper parts of the leaves. The leaves turn bright red in autumn. The flowers occur singly. They are round and creamy pink. They are 5-8 mm wide. The fruit are blue-black berries. These are 5-8 mm across and are edible.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows naturally in alpine meadows and subalpine pine forests. It is hardy to frosts.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown from seed or cuttings. Plants are easy to transplant.

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