PLANT FACT SHEET

Arctostaphylos rubra (Rehder & Wilson) Fernald

GENUS *Arctostaphylos* **FAMILY** Ericaceae

COMMON NAMES Red alpine bearberry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit can be eaten or made into jam.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub that lies along the ground. It grows 4-20 cm high. The main stems are woody. They are like wire. They are 3-5 mm across. It has many branches. It forms a colony like a mat. The bark is reddish-brown and flaky. The current year's growth is erect and 1-7 cm long. There are 5-7 leaves and ends with a winter bud. It is covered by thick scales. The leaves are alternate and broadly sword shaped. They are 1-5 cm long by 5-15 mm wide. There are teeth along the edge. The flowers are white. They are in groups of 3-6 flowered panicles. The fruit are red and fleshy. They are 9-12 mm across.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows in northern regions in North America and China and also at high altitudes in Yunnan at 3,300-4,000 m altitude.

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