

Mountain Huckleberry

Vaccinium membranaceum

Distribution: This species is found in the west from the Yukon Territory to Northern California, mostly in the Cascade Mountains; eastward through the Rocky Mountain States of 3,000ft and greater in elevation.

Growth: Mountain Huckleberry grows from 1 to 5 ft.

Adaptability: In forests Mountain Huckleberry often dominates the forest understory during early to mid-stages of succession. Mountain Huckleberry is fire adapted. The leaves and stems of the huckleberry are resistant to low-intensity fires, and if burned away they will resprout vigorously from rhizomes buried under the soil. Huckleberry grows in moist, moderately deep, well-drained soils.

Comments: Several abiotic and biotic factors determine the extent of fructification by thinleaf huckleberry. Greater berry production occurs in soils high in organic matter. Soil moisture availability will affect quality and quantity of berry production within a growing season. Succeeds in full sun or light shade though it fruits better in a sunny position. Dislikes root disturbance, plants are best grown in pots until being planted out in their permanent positions.

