

Protocol Information



(Teachout-Teashon)

Family Scientific Name:	Ericaceae
Family Common Name:	Heath Family
Scientific Name:	<i>Vaccinium ovatum</i> Pursh var. <i>ovatum</i>
Genus:	<i>Vaccinium</i>
Species:	<i>ovatum</i>
Species Authority:	Pursh
Variety:	var. <i>ovatum</i>
Sub-species:	N/A
Cultivar:	
Authority for Variety/Sub-species:	
Common Synonym	
1.Genus:	<i>Vaccinium</i> (Richards 103)
1.Species:	<i>lanceolatum</i> (Richards 103)
2.Genus:	<i>Vaccinium</i> (Richards 103)
2.Species:	<i>ovatum</i> (Richards 103)
2.Variety:	var. <i>sporovum</i> (Richards 103)
3.Genus:	<i>Vaccinium</i> (Richards 103)
3.Species:	<i>sampverrens</i> (Richards 103)
4.Genus:	<i>Metagonia</i> (Richards 103)
4.Species:	<i>ovata</i> (Richards 103)
Common Name:	Evergreen Huckleberry, California Huckleberry

Species Code:	VAOV2 (USDA)
Ecotype:	Coniferous Forest (Pojar 59)
Date Entered or Updated:	04/11/07 Updated
General Distribution:	<i>V. ovatum</i> occurs commonly at edges or clearings and often near salt spray zones close to tidewater and at low elevations (Pojar 59). It ranges from Alaska to California and west of the Cascades in Washington.
Propagation Goal:	Plants
Propagation Method:	Seed
Product Type:	Container (plug)
Stock Type:	Flats
Time to Grow:	1 year
Target Specifications:	10 centimeter seedling
Propagule Collection:	Seeds should be collected after fruit ripens to a purplish-black berry in August to September (Young). Shake berries of a bush onto a ground cover or bucket for quick collection. To recover seeds from pulp, chill fruits at 10C for several days then shred in a blender, add water, and seeds will float to the top for collection (Young).
Propagule Processing/Propagule Characteristics:	Dry seeds after collection at room temperature for 48hr and store in cool place for years (Young). Seeds dried at 15-21°C for two days can be stored in a refrigerator for up to 12 years (Stevens). Seed Density: 4,300 seeds/gram (Young)
Pre-Planting Propagule Treatment:	1-3 months cold stratification if not planted in fall to break dormancy (WSU). Stored seeds germinate well when exposed to alternating temperature and light regimes of 28°C light for 14 hours a day and 13°C dark for 10 hours (Stevens).
Growing Area Preparation/Annual Practices for Perennial Crops:	Greenhouse growing facility (Young). Sowing Method: Direct Seeding. Seeds should be surface sown (Young). Growing Media: sand and peat moss mix (Stevens). Keep soil moist and plants shaded for rapid growth (Stevens).
Establishment Phase:	Transplant to larger pots from flats 6-7 weeks after emergence (Stevens).
Length of Establishment Phase:	Seeds will begin to emerge after 1 month (Stevens).
Active Growth Phase:	Use N10:P20 for 100% survival (Hawkins)
Length of Active Growth Phase:	1 year
Hardening Phase:	N/A
Length of Hardening Phase:	N/A
Harvesting, Storage and Shipping:	N/A

Length of Storage: N/A
Guidelines for Outplanting/
Performance on Typical Sites: May be planted outdoors after first growing season
(Stevens)
Other Comments: Berries are edible
References:

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Hawkins, B. and Henry G. "Effect of Nitrogen supply and Irradiance in seedling Survival and Biomass in Two Evergreen Ericaceae Species". Scandinavian Journal of Forest Research. Res 19: 415-423. Victoria, 2004.

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Kruckeberg, Arthur R. Gardening with Native Plants of the Pacific Northwest: An Illustrated Guide. Seattle: University of Washington, 1982.

Pojar, Jim and Andy MacKinnon, eds. Plants of the Pacific Northwest Coast: Washington, Oregon, British Columbia and Alaska. Vancouver, BC: Lone Line, 1994.

Richards, Rebecca T. and Susan J. Alexander. A social History of Wild Huckleberry Harvesting in the Pacific Northwest. USDA, 2006.

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<<http://cahedb.wsu.edu/nativePlant/scripts/webDisplayPlant.asp?ID=nv051>>

Young, James A. and Cheryl G. Young. Seeds of Woody Plants of North America: Revised and Enlarged Edition. Ed. Theodore R. Dudley. Portland, OR: Dioscorides, 1992.

First Name: Lacey
Last Name: Jeroue



Vaccinium ovatum Evergreen Huckleberry

Range

Found along the Pacific Coast from British Columbia to California.

Climate, elevation

Grows across a wide range of moisture regimes; Occurs from near sea level to 3,000 feet (0-914 m).

Local occurrence (where, how common)

It is rare in the Cascades but grows throughout the Coast Ranges and the central Sierra Nevada. It is a particularly common constituent

Habitat preferences

Requires moist, acidic soil and can thrive where pH ranges from 4.3 to 5.2; tolerant of both sun and shade, though plants do best with

Plant strategy type/successional stage (stress-tolerator, competitor, weedy/colonizer, seral, late successional)

Persists in many climax stands but also grows in early seral communities.

Associated species

Evergreen huckleberry grows as an understory dominant or codominant in certain mature Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*), Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*), and western red cedar (*Thuja pluvialis*). Common understory associates include salal, red huckleberry (*Vaccinium parvifolium*), western swordfern (*Polystichum munitum*), (

May be collected as: (seed, layered, divisions, etc.)

Hard wood cuttings, seed, layering, salvage

Collection restrictions or guidelines

Unlike most other western huckleberries, evergreen huckleberry lacks rhizomes. It reportedly possesses a well-developed rootcrown

Seed germination (needs dormancy breaking?)

Seeds of most *Vaccinium* spp. are not dormant and require no pretreatment for germination if planted in the fall after collecting. See

Seed life (can be stored, short shelf-life, long shelf-life)

Not found

Recommended seed storage conditions

Not found

Propagation recommendations (plant seeds, vegetative parts, cuttings, etc.)

Evergreen huckleberry can be propagated through hardwood cuttings or by seed, however seedling establishment is rare in most western huckleberries.

Soil or medium requirements (inoculum necessary?)

Not found

Installation form (form, potential for successful outcomes, cost)

Recovery of evergreen huckleberry can be relatively rapid wherever sprouting occurs.

Cuttings root fairly sporadically, and should be taken July to October.

Reestablishment by seed, if it occurs at all, is likely to be slow.

Young plants can be salvaged, but they should be under one foot tall. (Frequently, these will turn out to be new shoots of a mature plant)

One gallon container = \$3 (www.soundnativeplants.com)

Recommended planting density

Unavailable

Care requirements after installed (water weekly, water once etc.)

Keep soil moist, pH low.

Normal rate of growth or spread; lifespan

To 1.5 to 15 feet (0.5-4.6 m) in height. Plants often become spindly and clambering with extremes of either moisture or shade; Everg

Sources cited

- <http://oregonstate.edu/dept/ldplants/vaov-i.htm>
- <http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/plants/shrub/vacova/all.html>
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Data compiled by Mike Cooksey, 22 May 2003.