



Salal

Gaultheria shallon

Characteristics

Sprawling to erect evergreen shrub grows to height of 1-10 feet. Leaves thick, leathery and shiny; pointed egg shape, 2-4 inches long. Stems often reddish in color.

Flowers/Fruit

Small white bell-like blooms emerge from red-tinged buds beginning in spring and bloom through summer; grow along the ends of stems in showy clusters of 5-12. In late summer, fleshy flower sepals form small blue to dark purple berries covered with tiny hairs that hang in rows.

Habitat Value

Mule Deer and Mountain Beaver eat foliage and stems. Black Bear, Townsend's Chipmunks, and Douglas Squirrels feed on the fruit. Rufous Hummingbirds feed on the flower nectar, and Black-headed Grosbeaks, American Robins, and Cedar Waxwings eat berries.

Home Garden Applications

Grows where almost nothing else will, in deep understory forest groves, moist or dry soils, in full sun or deep shade. Does not transplant well, but is generally available at garden centers.