

Botanical Name: Arbutus unedo

Common Name: Strawberry tree

Type of Plant: dicot: tree/shrub Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape an upright, spreading, shrubby and densely branched plant;
if unpruned, the plant forms a full rounded canopy; may develop into a small
multi-trunked tree; the small branches have a deep red bark

Height 10'-30' (35') Spread equal Growth Rate moderate-slow

Environment:

Exposure outdoors full or partial sun

Soil tolerates most; prefers fast-draining, fairly dry soils

Hardiness hardy (zones 4-24): thrives in warm sunny foothill areas

Morphology:

Leaves pinnate, alternate, elliptic-oval or obovate; strongly
serrate, with a long, acute apex; dark green, leathery, 2"-4" long

Flowers white, urn-shaped, 1/4" across; in terminal (4"-6")
panicles; winter - spring

Fruit a berry: round, yellow-red, 3/4"-1" diameter, edible

Propagation: seed

Usage: a beautiful, small accent tree for its picturesque
twisting form, distinctive flowers and ornamental fruit; suitable as a
container plant, patios; several together make a background screen

Landscape Care:

Watering no special requirements; tolerates regular irrigation, but
is very drought tolerant after established

Fertilizing balanced in spring if well watered; otherwise little is
needed

Pruning to shape desired (do not shear); as a tree, head high and
develop a wide-spreading framework

Pests/Diseases relatively free

Special Conditions

Origin: S. Europe Family: Ericaceae