Red Raspberry

Rubus idaeus



Red Raspberry fruit
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 6 feet

Spread: 8 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 3b

Other Names: European Red Raspberry

Group/Class: Floricane Group

Description:

An erect to spreading, thicket forming shrub producing tasty red berries in late spring and early summer on second year canes; raspberries require careful placement in the landscape, a specific pruning regimen and protection from birds



Red Raspberry fruit
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Edible Qualities

Red Raspberry is a medium-sized shrub that is commonly grown for its edible qualities. It produces red heart-shaped berries which are usually ready for picking from late spring to late summer. The berries have a sweet taste and a juicy texture.

The berries are most often used in the following ways:

- Fresh Eating
- Cooking
- Preserves
- Canning
- Freezing

Features & Attributes

Red Raspberry has rich green deciduous foliage on a plant with an upright spreading habit of growth. The fuzzy oval compound leaves do not develop any appreciable fall color. It features an abundance of magnificent red berries from late spring to late summer.

This is an open multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other landscape plants with finer foliage. This is a high maintenance plant that will require regular care and upkeep. Each spring, cut back all dead and two-year old canes to the ground, leaving only last year's growth standing. It is a good choice for attracting birds to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Suckering
- Disease
- Spiny

Aside from its primary use as an edible, Red Raspberry is sutiable for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Orchard/Edible Landscaping

Planting & Growing

Red Raspberry will grow to be about 6 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 8 feet. It tends to be a little leggy, with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. This is a self-pollinating variety, so it doesn't require a second plant nearby to set fruit.

This shrub may not always play well with others; as such, it is best grown in its own designated garden space or isolated area of an edibles garden. It should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. This plant should not require much in the way of fertilizing once established, although it may appreciate a shot of general-purpose fertilizer from time to time early in the growing season. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division.