

Botanical Name: *Rubus idaeus* L.

Botanical Family: *Rosaceae*

Plant Local name(s)

Georgian: Jolo
Armenian: Ազնվամորի
Azerian: Morug meyvesi
Russian: Малина
English: Raspberry
German: Himbeere

Description of the Plant

A perennial plant which bears biennial stems ("canes") from the perennial root system. In its first year, a new stem grows vigorously to its full height of 1.5-2.5 m, unbranched, and bearing large pinnate leaves with five or seven leaflets; normally it does not produce any flowers. In its second year, the stem does not grow taller, but produces several side shoots, which bear smaller leaves with three or five leaflets. The flowers are produced in late spring on short racemes on the tips of these side shoots, each flower about 1 cm diameter with five white petals. The flowers are hermaphrodite (have both male and female organs) and are pollinated by Insects. The plant is self-fertile, it is noted for attracting wildlife such as insects, birds and mammals who feed on the nectar and the ripe fruit, and who distribute the seed. The fruit is red, edible, sweet but tart-flavoured, produced in summer or early autumn. In raspberry, the drupelets separate from the core when picked, leaving a hollow fruit, whereas in blackberry the drupelets stay attached to the core.

The plant is naturally occurring in central and western Asia and in Europe. On the Caucasus, it occurs in Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan. It is widely cultivated and naturalized elsewhere.



<http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/>

File:Rubus-idaeus.JPG



<http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/>

File:Krzak_malin2.JPG

Sustainability

Leaves and fruits are produced annually. About 20% of the fruit from one bush should remain, about 20% of all bushes should be left unharvested in one collection area.

Post collection treatment

Harvest containers have to be clean, dry and well ventilated. New containers should be used which are labeled with the following information: Collected plant, collection area, collector name, date of collection, weight.

Before processing, harvested leaves or fruit should be stored not longer than one or two days in the shade and under cool temperature. Fruit must not be bruised during storage or processing. Clean the harvested goods from other plant parts or other foreign matter. For processing, dry either in warm, dry and well aerated spaces in thin layers, or artificially in dryers with a maximum temperature of 40 Degree Celsius.

References

<http://www.ars-grin.gov/cgi-bin/npgs/html/taxon.pl?32348>

<http://www.pfaf.org/user/Plant.aspx?LatinName=Rubus%20idaeus>

<http://www.tropicos.org/Name/27800177>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rubus_idaeus

<http://www.ars-grin.gov/cgi-bin/npgs/html/taxon.pl?32348>