

Mansanita (*Muntingia calabura* L.)

Plant Traits

Plant Type	Evergreen
Size	25 to 40 feet tall
Spacing	N/A
Bloom Time	A few flowers bloom each day, continually throughout the year in tropical climates
Flower Color	White
Root Depth	N/A
Pests	Prone to leaf spot caused by <i>Phyllosticta</i> sp. and <i>Pseudocercospora muntingiae</i> . Also subject to crown gall caused by <i>Agrobacterium tumefaciens</i>

Diseases *Phloeosporrella muntingiae*, *Pseudocercospora* spp., *Chaetomella* spp.

Plant Care

Light	Full
Soil	Nutrient rich soil
Support	None
Water	Needs lots of water
Fertilizer	Use organic fertilizer, spread over the root area, once a year. In a container, apply organic fertilizer monthly during the growing season

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Recipe

Manzanita Cider



Ingredients:

- Unripe berries make a fantastic cider. Pick them when they are still green, but have a blush of red on them. Green berries make a dry, hard apple cider, only without the alcohol. You can also make a cider with the ripe manzanita berries. The process is the same

Directions:

1. Wash the berries and remove the stones
2. Pulverize/crush the berry for the juice
3. Boil water and let stand before gently adding to juice and berry pulp
4. Let it cool to room temperature and allow it to steep overnight
5. Strain into a jar container

Sources

Plant information:

1. <https://filipinoeyes.com/2021/06/03/filipino-manzanita-fruit/>
2. <https://www.sciencetimes.com/articles/22236/20190603/young-filipino-scientist-discovers-diabetes-curing-properties-of-a-local-fruit.htm>
3. <https://tastylandscape.com/2013/04/26/aratiles-tree-cultivating-the-cotton-candy-flavored-fruit/>
4. <https://gardenoracle.com/images/muntingia-calabura.html>

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5. <https://balconygardenweb.com/jamaican-cherry-tree-care-and-growing-information/#:~:text=The%20tree%20grows%20best%20from,soft%20with%20higher%20moisture%20content>
6. <https://www.cabi.org/isc/datasheet/35164>