



The 2013 Berry Survey

A guide to some of Alaska's edible berries
Photos by Verna Pratt

The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium will soon distribute a survey that asks you about berries that are important as food to your community. We hope to identify which of the almost 40 species of edible berries in Alaska are valued as food, and whether the abundance of those berries has changed in recent years. This information will help direct research that examines how berries may be affected by climate change.

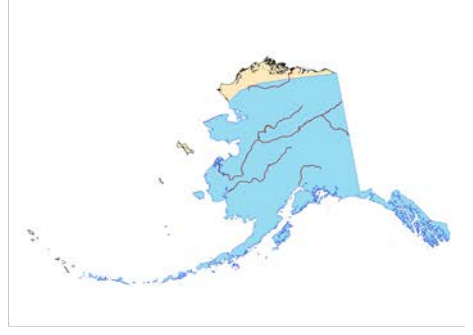
We are sending you this guide to the more common edible Alaska berries ahead of the survey. This is to help you identify which species may grow near your community. For each of the 16 species of berries in this guide, we provide pictures of the berry and its flower, a map which shows the distribution of that berry in blue, and some of the more common names for that berry. The guide is organized based on the height of the berry plant.

The questionnaire that we distribute will be arranged in the same order as this guide. We hope that this guide will help you distinguish among the species of berries as you complete the questionnaire.

Thank you!

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
4000 Ambassador Drive
Anchorage, AK 99508
P: 907-729-4596
F: 907-729-2924

The following plants are less than 24" high



Common name: Bog Cranberry
Scientific name: *Oxycoccus microcarpus*

Growth form: Shrub
How tall is this plant? Up to 6"



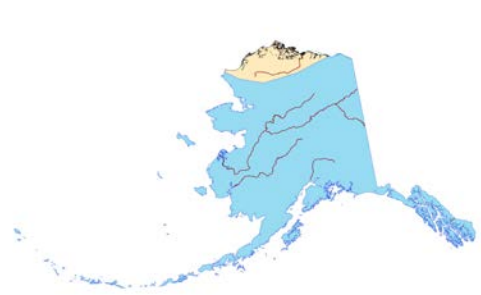
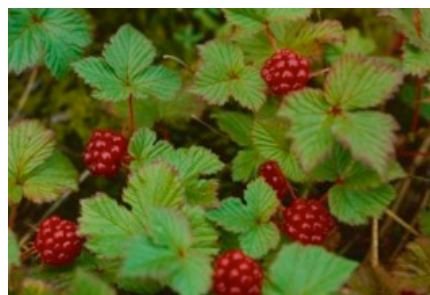
Common name: Low-bush cranberry
Other names: Mountain cranberry, Lingonberry, Partridge berry

Scientific name: *Vaccinium vitis-idaea*
Growth form: Shrub
How tall is this plant? 3-8"



Common name: Cloudberry
Other names: Baked apple berry, Salmonberry

Scientific name: *Rubus chamaemorus*
Growth form: Non-woody plant
How tall is this plant? Up to 5"



Common name: Nagoonberry
Other names: Wineberry
Scientific name: *Rubus arcticus*

Growth form: Non-woody plant
How tall is this plant? Up to 5"

Plants less than 24" high



Common name: Bog blueberry
Other names: Bog Bilberry
Scientific name: *Vaccinium uliginosum*

Growth form: Shrub
How tall is this plant? Up to 2'



Common name: Crowberry
Other names: Mossberry, Blackberry
Scientific name: *Empetrum nigrum*

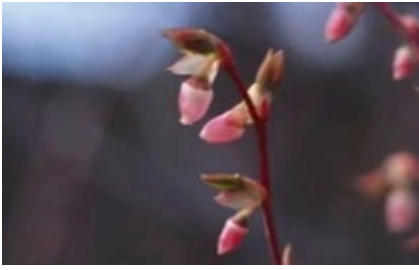
Growth form: Shrub
How tall is this plant? Up to 8"

The following plants are between 24 and 36" high



Common name: Red currant
Scientific name: *Ribes triste*

Growth form: Shrub
How tall is this plant? 2-3'



Common name: Early blueberry
Other names: Blue huckleberry
Scientific name: *Vaccinium ovalifolium*

Growth form: Shrub
How tall is this plant? Up to 3'



Common name: Northern black currant
Scientific name: *Ribes hudsonianum*

Growth form: Shrub
How tall is this plant? Up to 3'



Common name: Trailing black currant
Other names: Trailing blue currant
Scientific name: *Ribes laxiflorum*

Growth form: Shrub
How tall is this plant? Up to 3'



Common name: Swamp gooseberry
Other names: Bristly black currant
Scientific name: *Ribes lacustre*

Growth form: Shrub
How tall is this plant? 2-3'

The following plants are more than 36" high



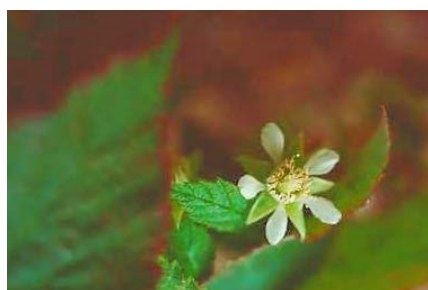
Common name: Red huckleberry
Scientific name: *Vaccinium parvifolium*

Growth form: Shrub
How tall is this plant? Up to 8'



Common name: High-bush cranberry
Other names: Squash berry, Moose berry
Scientific name: *Viburnum edule*

Growth form: Shrub
How tall is this plant? Up to 8'



Common name: Raspberry
Other names: Red raspberry
Scientific name: *Rubus idaeus*

Growth form: Cane
How tall is this plant? Up to 5'



Common name: Salmonberry
Scientific name: *Rubus spectabilis*

Growth form: Cane
How tall is this plant? Up to 7 ½'



Common name: Alaska blueberry
Scientific name: *Vaccinium alaskensis*

Growth form: Shrub
How tall is this plant? Up to 6'

Special thanks to Verna Pratt for providing the photos in this guide

