

# **MADROÑO'S TREE or STRAWBERRY TREE**



## **Introduction/location**

Strawberry tree is a fruit tree that is considered a shrub because it usually measures between 3 and 7 meters. This tree is typical of the Mediterranean area although we can find it in other countries such as Africa, Ireland or Mexico... since it has an easy adaptation to other similar climates.

## **Characteristics**

This low tree has a red and scaly trunk. Its leaves are perennial, that is, they never fall, they are also green and oval.

Strawberry tree produces pink flowers which are bell-shaped and small. They blossom in Autumn.

We can find some fruits that grow on the strawberry called Berries that are first between yellow and orange and finally are reddish when they are ripe. A curiosity of these fruits is that they take a long time to ripe, around a year and they can be sweet or sour.

## **Main uses**

Many people use this tree in order to decorate as it has beautiful leaves and different colors throughout the year.

Its fruits are usually used to make liqueurs and have anti-inflammatory, diuretic characteristics and they are used to make jams and preserves and canned arbutus. In addition, with Strawberries' leaves we can make a herbal tea.

Other uses that we can find are that the wood of the strawberry tree is heavy, strong, fine-grained, elastic and easy to be processed; It is used in tool handles, poles, firewood and charcoal. Bows are made from it in the United States.

### **¿What care do they need?**

These trees are very easy to take care of, they need a lot of sunlight and about watering, you should water them frequently and abundantly when they are growing. As they develop, they require less water regularly.

They require sandy and white soil, it is also important to use quality fertilizers.

### **Main curiosity**

*The strawberry´s fruit (berries) contains alcohol and it´s used to make liquors.*

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