

Brush cherry



Syzygium australe (= *Eugenia myrtifolia*, old name in Italian market), with many common names that include brush cherry, is a rainforest tree native to eastern Australia. It can attain a height of up to 35 m with a trunk diameter of 60 cm. In cultivation, this species is usually a small to medium-sized tree with a maximum height of only 18m.

The leaves are opposite, simple, lanceolate from 4-8 cm long. Flowers are white and in clusters. The dark pink to red fruits are edible.

This species is commonly confused with magenta cherry and the blue lilly pilli. However, the brush cherry has a paler trunk. The species occurs in coastal regions in Queensland and New South Wales, northwards from Batemans Bay.

Brush cherry is commonly cultivated in gardens, are especially popular as hedges. The pleasantly sour fruit are also eaten fresh or cooked. The fruit can be used to make jams and jellies.

It's a quite rustic plant and withstands the cold without problems; in the coldest periods of the year, in fact, we don't have to worry about minimum temperatures; it can withstand a temperature of a few degrees below zero: it can withstand up to -5 ° C, as long as in a sunny place and protected from cold winds. Alternatively, it can be grown in large pots and kept indoor.

It loves the luminous places, but not to be exposed to direct rays: it only needs a few hours a day of sunshine.

It prefers a fertile, light, well-drained substratum. It is fertilized in the fall and spring with an organic or slow-release product and it needs to be well watered in the warm periods but still being careful not to get water stagnation on the roots.

To obtain a florid development it is important to remember to periodically fertilize our shrubs; in spring we use a rich in nitrogen and potassium fertilizer, which will favor the development of new foliage and flowers. We can intervene at the end of winter by mixing the soil around the plant with a good dose of organic fertilizer or slow release chemical fertilizer. During the spring it is recommended to intervene periodically, with liquid or powder fertilizers, to be added to the water for watering, every 20-25 days. Remember that to stimulate the development of new foliage it is advisable to slightly shorten all the branches of the plant, so as to remove the dry leaves and favor the development of shoots.

Category: Outdoor foliage plants

Families: Myrtaceae

Genus: *Eugenia*

Species: *myrtifolia* "New Port"

Geographical Area of Origin: Oceania

Climatic Zones: Mediterranean: South and islands, hills. USDA 10 a

Habit: Shrub

Leaves: Evergreen

Colore Foglie: Verde  Arancione 

Flowering Period: Luglio / Agosto / Settembre

Flower: Panicle

Colore Fiori: Giallo 

Favorite soil: Sub-acid / medium acid / Neutral / Middle-Dough / Medium soil

Water needs: Medium

Light Exposure: Medium shade / Half shade / Full light / Full sun



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Form: Pyramid / Grown as shrub / bush / Column

Colore Frutti: Rosso 