

Small or Dull Oregon Grape



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Mahonia nervosa

PNW Native Plant

Fragrant and beautiful yellow flowers on this erect, stiff-branched shrub.

Fragrant

Cultural Uses

The tart berries are edible but not very sweet so often times mixed with salal or something sweet. Makes great jams. The bark is bright yellow inside, due to an alkaloid, berberine. The shredded bark of the stems and roots can be used to make dye for basket materials.

General

Erect, rhizomatous, evergreen, stiff-branched shrub has leaves like holly. The leaves are clustered, long, alternate, turning reddish or purple in the winter. Beautiful yellow flowers that turn to blue berries in elongated clusters.

Full sun to part shade

Moist to dry soils

Ecology:

Dry to fairly moist, open to closed forests at low to middle elevations