

**European Mountain-Ash (*Sorbus aucuparia*)**  
**By Rebecca Hargrave**

European Mountain-Ash is a small upright tree, 30 feet in height with the width equaling about 2/3 of the height. While there are native varieties, the European Mountain-Ash is the one heralded for its fruit. The ¼" reddish-orange berries hang in clusters from the pyramidal tree in late summer. Mountain-Ash is often made into drinks and spreads; many recipes refer to the tree by its English name- Rowan.

*Sorbus* has a medium growth rate and is adaptable to many soils, but prefers slightly acidic. It does not tolerate much shade, and would make a good crop for a forest opening. Mountain-Ash is a member of the Rose family, and subsequently suffers from a number of shared problems; fireblight can be a large problem, but is also susceptible to galls, cankers, rusts, and a variety of insects including borers. The fruit is also favored by birds and does not last long once ripe.