

PROPOSED NOTICE OF DESIGNATION OF TESTED
GERMPLASM OF 'ALTURA' GREENLEAF MANZANITA,
Arctostaphylos patula Greene. FOR CONSERVATION
USE ON CRITICALLY ERODED AREAS IN THE
TAHOE BASIN AND SURROUNDING AREAS

Scientific Name: Arctostaphylos patula Greene.

Common Name: Greenleaf manzanita

Proposed Varietal Name: 'Altura'

Other Identification Used: LK-189, PL-141-72, T-41129 9041(29)

Origin: Collected from native plants in August and September 1972 at South Lake Tahoe, California.

Description: A native, erect to semi-erect, evergreen shrub, 3-6 feet high and about 3-5 feet wide. Bark is smooth and reddish brown on older stems and branches. Leaves are bright green, broadly ovate to round, 1-2 inches long and 3/4 - 1 1/2 inches wide. Pinkish flowers are in dense corymbose panicles and bloom May-June. Seed is dark brown to black in 2-3 divided nutlets.

Method of Development: Original collection of seed increased at the Lockeford PMC through plants. Plantings made on various soil and site conditions throughout the Tahoe Basin. Compared to other lower growing shrubs on dryland slopes and critical eroding areas. Additional seed was collected from original site for continued testing.

Uses: Developed as a critical area stabilization plant for dry, rocky slopes and droughty, well-drained soils. It is slow to establish initial ground cover, but 3-4 year old plants provide good cover and erosion control. Stems root at nodes when put in contact with the ground by heavy snows. It seems to be useful for environmental enhancement and foundation plantings around mountain homes.

Area of Adaptation: Medium to coarse textured, well-drained soils; where MAP is 16 inches or higher. Grows well in the Tahoe Basin, but is adapted to elevations down to 2000 feet where precipitation is adequate.

Diseases: Free from most diseases, but is susceptible to crown and root problems related to wet and poorly drained soils.

Plant Propagation: The most effective seed treatment has been to scarify with sulfuric acid and stratify seed for about 90 days before planting. Seed is planted directly into the outplanting containers which have been book planters, leach tubes or gallon cans. Moisture and fungus have to be controlled in the initial greenhouse propagation for optimum success.

1988 Summary of Greenleaf Manzanita Plantings in the Tahoe Basin

<u>Location</u>	<u>Soils</u>	<u>Planted</u>	<u>a</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1. El Dorado Co. Airport	Jabu sandy loam	1972 1973		70% survival, new seedlings, mature plants 4'x5'
2. Hwy 50 & 28, Glenbrook	Chaix sandy loam	1971		65% survival, plants survived best with less competition
3. Roundhill Sewage Plant	loam	1973		100% survival, excellent growth, 6'x5' on good soil
4. Hope Valley	Meeks stony loamy coarse sand	1974		40% survival on a very droughty soil, steep slopes
5. Northstar	Tahoma sandy loam	1974		80% survival, has withstood snow removal
6. Incline Village	Trojan sandy loam	1974		75% survival, better from spring plantings. Good seed source
7. Rubicon Subdivision	Decomposed granite	1976		60% survival, but planted only on toe of slope
8. Meyer's landfill	landfill	1976		Did not survive methane gas and severe competition from irrigated herbaceous plants