

Crataegus azarolus

(Azarole or Mediterranean Medlar)

“Mediterranean Medlar grows mostly in the Shouf Reserve, Khirbet Qanafar, and Rachayya. The Mediterranean Medlar is very well known to the rural inhabitants of Lebanon. The common Red Hawthorn was associated by ancient Greeks and Romans with hope, marriage and fertility. Bridesmaids wore its fragrant flowers, and brides carried a bough made of its branches. The Hawthorn is related to the apple tree, and it produces small apple-like fruits that are an ideal food source for many bird and mammal species. The Hawthorn is a small, deciduous, shrubby tree that reaches up to 10 meters in height. The leaves have three to five lobes, and the lightly fragrant white to pinkish-white flowers grow in clusters. The trees bloom from March to April, depending on altitude, and the fruits, which measure one centimeter in diameter, ripen in autumn. ”*

*Trees of Lebanon, 2014, Salma Nashabe Talhouk, Mariana M. Yazbek, Khaled Sleem, Arbi J. Sarkissian, Mohammad S. Al-Zein, and Sakra Abo Eid



Plant Image

Landscape Information

French Name: Azerolier
Zaarour Ahmar :Arabic Name
Plant Type: Shrub
Origin: Mediterranean Basin
Heat Zones: 6, 7, 8, 9
Hardiness Zones: 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
Uses: Specimen, Edible, Native to Lebanon
Size/Shape
Growth Rate: Moderate
Tree Shape: Upright
Canopy Symmetry: Irregular
Canopy Density: Open
Canopy Texture: Medium
Height at Maturity: 5 to 8 m
Spread at Maturity: 3 to 5 meters
Time to Ultimate Height: 10 to 20 Years

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Flower Image

Botanical Description

Foliage

Leaf Arrangement: Alternate

Leaf Venation: Pinnate

Leaf Persistence: Deciduous

Leaf Type: Simple

Leaf Blade: Less than 5

Leaf Shape: Ovate

Leaf Margins: Lobate

Leaf Textures: Medium

Leaf Scent: No Fragrance

Color(growing season): Green

Color(changing season): Yellow, Brown

Flower

Flower Showiness: True

Flower Size Range: 3 - 7

Flower Type: Raceme

Flower Sexuality: Monoecious (Bisexual)

Flower Scent: Pleasant

Seasons: Spring

Trunk

Number of Trunks: Multi-Trunked, Can be trained to one trunk

Fruit

Fruit Type: Berry

Fruit Showiness: True

Fruit Size Range: 1.5 - 3

Fruit Colors: Red

Seasons: Spring

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Leaf Image

Horticulture Management

Tolerance

Frost Tolerant: Yes

Heat Tolerant: No

Drought Tolerant: Yes

Salt Tolerance: Poor

Requirements

Soil Requirements: Clay

Soil Ph Requirements: Neutral, Alkaline

Water Requirements: Moderate, Low

Light Requirements:

Management

Toxity: No

Invasive Potential: No

Pruning Requirement: Little needed, to develop a strong structure

Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter: No

Surface Rooting: No

Edible Parts: Fruit

Plant Propagations: Seed, Cutting

MORE IMAGES



Fruit Image



Bark Image



Other Image