

Cultural Information – Aronia
(ar-ROH-nee-uh)

<u>Light:</u>	Full sun, a southern exposure is best.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Hardy to zone 3 and higher when planted in the ground and tolerant to wide swings in temperature.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Humidity is not an issue in its culture when grown throughout the temperate areas of North America.
<u>Watering:</u>	When first planted, attention is needed to watering. Once established, it is tolerant to wet to dry soils.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	Applications of fertilizer can be given in early spring however; the plant under most cultural conditions really doesn't need much in the way of added fertilizer, unless the soils are particularly poor. If necessary, use a low balanced fertilizer no higher than a 15-15-15. Discontinue during the winter months.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Like most fruit trees, prune in the winter or early spring removing conflicting branches or heading back excessive growth. Remember that the flower buds form on the previous season growth and excessive pruning can slow or disrupt fruiting.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Few problems with insects or diseases.
<u>Comments</u>	This native of eastern North America is one enduring and resilient plant. It can be maintained as a shrub with a little pruning and is an excellent candidate for borders and areas with poor soil. A plant for all seasons with a burst of bloom in spring followed by black berries in late summer and brilliant foliage in the fall. The fruit is sweet with a little tannin tartness. Insects don't bother this plant so it is a reliable producer as long as spring freezes don't harm the flowers.