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Berberis lomariifolia

[Synonyms : *Mahonia lomariifolia*]

MOUNTAIN GRAPE is an evergreen shrub or tree. Native to western China it has small highly fragrant, yellow flowers.

It is also known as Burmese mahonia, Chinese hollygrape, and Chinese mahonia.

Lomariifolia is derived from a past genus name *Lomaria* (a fern that is now part of the *Blechnum* genus) and Latin *-folia* (leaved) components meaning ‘with *Lomaria*-like leaves’.

Mountain grape was first introduced outside China in about 1930. It is claimed that for some authorities the shape of this shrub’s leaves far outweigh those of any other in beauty.

The small thickly blue-frosted, bluish-black berry-like fruit have been eaten raw or cooked. Medicinally, herbalists have used the roots for treating dysentery.