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*Gaultheria mucronata*

[Synonyms : *Arbutus mucronata*, *Gaultheria eriophylla* var. *mucronata*, *Pernettya mucronata*, *Pernettya speciosa*]

**PRICKLY HEATH** is an evergreen shrub. Native to southern South America (especially Argentina and Chile) it has tiny nodding, often pink-tinged, white flowers.

The flowers are pollinated by the wind.

*Mucronata* is derived from Latin *mucro* (sharp point, sharp edge) meaning ‘with a short sharp tip’.

The pleasant-tasting white, rose, lilac to crimson to purple-black berries can be eaten raw or cooked.

The shrub provides ground cover and can be cultivated as low hedging or as cover for game.