

Mayhaw

Crataegus opaca

Mayhaw is found in the pineywoods in low areas that have standing water most of the year, such as creek and river bottoms. The fruit matures quickly after the early spring flowers appear. The one-inch red pomes ripen in May and even though the fruits are bitter raw the jelly produced from them is highly prized for its flavor.

Type: perennial small to medium tree

USDA hardiness zones: 5 through 10

Uses: specimen; fruit; food forest

Origin: native to Florida

Height: to 40 feet **Spread:** to 40 feet

Plant spacing: 40 feet

Light requirement: full sun to part sun

Soil tolerances: sand; clay; loam; acidic

Drought tolerance: good

Soil salt tolerances: poor

Invasive potential: not known to be invasive

Pest resistance: superior disease resistance

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Photo: Sally and Andy Wasowski