

Boxwood (Ihp)

Latin: *Buxus sempervirens* (species TBD)

French: Les buis

Halq'emeylem: Unknown/non native

“Get ye all three into the Box tree.” *Twelfth Night*, ii. 5, 1 8

The boxwood plant, also known as a box, is a small leaved evergreen tree like shrub that is ubiquitous in any Shakespeare or European garden. It has small oval green to yellow-green leaves. There are over 360 cultivars of Boxwood found across Asia, Europe, North America, and Africa. It has been used as an ornamental plant dating back to the Roman Empire (European Boxwood Topiary Society, 2020). Prior to cultivation, these grew as trees all over England. The boxwood is an essential part of European ornamental gardens and a key plant in Shakespeare gardens. The ability to sculpt elaborate topiaries, construct structured borders, and prune flowing shapes allow the boxwood to take on many different forms within a garden (Ellacombe, 1896). During Elizabethan England, Shakespeare would have seen boxwood used to form elaborate knots on a square plot of land (Strong, 2016).

Shakespeare mentions the boxwood specifically in *Twelfth Night*.

Although it is a toxic plant, historically it has been used as a medicine for a variety of issues including as an antiseptic and as an anti-malarial drug.

Boxwood adds a definitive Old-World formal garden flavour that harkens back to the Elizabethan gardens of England. In this garden, the boxwood is used to border the path, guiding you through the garden.



Source: <https://www.monrovia.com/boxwood/>

References

Ellacombe, H. N. (1896). *Plant-lore and garden-craft of Shakespeare*. London, England: Edward Arnold.

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Strong, R. (2016). *The Quest for Shakespeare's Garden*. New York, NY: Thames and Hudson Inc.

Uzor, P. F. (2020). Alkaloids from Plants with Antimalarial Activity: A Review of Recent Studies. *Evidence-Based Complementary & Alternative Medicine (ECAM)*, 1–17. <https://doi-org.proxy.ufv.ca:2443/10.1155/2020/8749083>.

Salmonberry (lhp)

Latin: *Rubus spectabilis* Pursh

Halq'emeylem:



Fruit: lila' salmonberry.wav



Bush: lila'ulhp salmbush (1).wav

The salmonberry is indigenous to the Pacific Northwest (Sierra Club BC, 2020). It grows in moist to wet areas from sea level to the sub alpine elevations. Very similar to the raspberry, the salmonberry is a thorny bush. The plant has pink to purple flowers in Spring. The berries ripen in summer and can range in colour from yellow to purple.

Sto:lo and other Nations harvest both the berries (Summer) and young sprouts (early Spring). SFU Halkomelem Ethnobiology, 2020.



Source: <https://www.sfu.ca/halk-ethnobiology/html/plants/salmonberry.htm>

References

Sierra Club BC. (2020). Salmonberry. Retrieved from <https://sierraclub.bc.ca/salmonberry/>

SFU Halkomelem Ethnobiology. (2020) Salmonberry. Retrieved from <https://www.sfu.ca/halk-ethnobiology/html/plants/salmonberry.htm>

Thimbleberry (lhp)

Latin: *Rubus parviflorus* Nutt

Halq'emeylem:

Fruit: t'qwum

Bush: t'qwumulhp (SFU Halkomelem Ethnobiology, 2020)

The thimbleberry is indigenous to western North America, growing in temperate regions from the south of Alaska to Mexico and as far east as the Great Lakes. (Wikipedia, 2019) The plant has small white flowers in Spring. While visually very similar to the raspberry and salmonberry, the thimbleberry does not have thorns. The small (~1 cm) berries ripen in summer turning a bright red when ripe. The very sweet berries are fairly dry compared to other fruit making them easier and quicker to preserve than other types of indigenous berries (SFU Halkomelem Ethnobiology, 2020).

Sto:lo and other Nations harvest both the berries (Summer) and young sprouts (early Spring). The large maple shaped leaves were also used to remove slime off the harvested salmon during butchering in the summer through autumn (SFU Halkomelem Ethnobiology, 2020).



References

Simon Fraser University Halkomelem Ethnobiology Web Site. (2020) Thimbleberry. Retrieved from <https://www.sfu.ca/halk-ethnobiology/html/plants/thimble.htm>

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