

Annotation

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Representatives of the genus Vaccinium L. and its species diversity

The possibility of using species of the genus Vaccinium L. in fruit growing and ornamental horticulture is considered, phylogeny of species Vaccinium corymbosum L. and its systematic position are studied. Morphological description of plants of the most common species in the European continent, such as Cranberry – Vaccinium vitis-idaea L., Hurtleberry – V. myrtyllus L. and Bog Whortleberry – V. uliginosum L. is given. Their valuable morphological characteristics are defined. It is shown that in Europe and Asia Bog whortleberry (V. uliginosum L.) is mostly widespread as the most adapted to a variety of conditions. The natural habitat of Bog whortleberry covers two continents – Eurasia and North America. The leading small-fruit crop of this genus in the USA and Europe is Vaccinium corymbosum L. which has different names in Ukraine. The cultivated varieties of Tall-growing Blueberry are selected from the following three species – Vaccinium australe Small. (a height of 2.0–4.0m), V. corymbosum L. (2.0–4.5m) and V. angustifolium Ait. (0.5m).

Names of species of Vaccinium L genus are critically revised, in particular – Vaccinium corymbosum L. Some errors are indicated as to the names. The issues of improving the Ukrainian botanical nomenclature of this species are discussed. Phytonyms of different level, or folk names given in the catalogues of higher plants of Ukraine in relation to Vaccinium corymbosum L., need correction and clarification on the basis of the improved spelling of the Latin names of genus and species taking into account modern data on plant taxonomy.

Key words: *Vaccinium L., taxonomy, habitat, genus connections, phytonyms.*