

## **Mahonia Japonica “Bealer”** (*Mahonia bealei*)

*Mahonia bealei*, commonly known as leatherleaf mahonia, is an evergreen shrub which typically grows in a multi-stemmed clump to 6-10’ tall but occasionally taller. It is native to western China. Fragrant yellow flowers in loose, spreading to pendant racemes (each to 3-6” long), bloom in late winter to early spring (February- April). Flowers are followed by ornamentally attractive, waxy green fruits which hang in grape-like clusters and mature to blue-black in late spring to early summer. Fruits are attractive to birds.



**Plant Care:** Mahonia is easily grown in moist, well-drained soils in part shade (morning sun or sun dappled shade) to full shade. Established plants tolerate some soil dryness and drought. If plants become too large, the stems can be cut back as much as you like without hurting the plant, but be careful that the prickly leaves don’t hurt you.

**Watering:** Water regularly in the first year after planting. After each thorough watering, wait until the top 3 inches of soil dry out before watering again. Soon after the first year, your mahonia will become drought tolerant and only need water during extended droughts.

### **References:**

<https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org>

<https://www.monrovia.com>