

## NOTES ON THE GENUS VACCINIUM.

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The four species here named are in our collection: *V. membranaceum*, *V. ovalifolium*, *V. Canadense*, and *V. parvifolium*.

*V. membranaceum* was collected in fruit, July 16th, on the mountain side close to Revelstoke, also at Trout Lake, Poplar, Seymour River, and the Horsefly River. This species produces the finest fruit of any of the species collected. The fruit is of a purplish black when ripe and much sweeter than *V. Canadense*, so common in northern Ontario. It also averages larger in size than *V. Canadense*, but does not yield so heavily. It is, however, a very heavy producer and is much valued for household use. The plants grow and produce the best in open or thinly wooded places, at between 2,500 and 4,000 feet. I have not often seen it above 4,500 feet. It seems to prefer a drier soil than *V. ovalifolium*, and also grows less scattered, the plants generally being abundant where it grows.

*V. ovalifolium* was collected at the same places as *V. membranaceum*, excepting near the Horsefly River. It, however, grows at a much lower altitude and generally in damper and more shady places, often in quite heavy timber. It is seen in its best state on the lower benches of the river valleys of the Gold ranges. There it produces heavily, bright-blue berries, much more solid and tart than those of *V. membranaceum*, but not so large. A peculiarity of the fruit is its very heavy bloom. The berries are round while those of *V. membranaceum* have the diameter from calyx to stem much shorter, thus producing a flat berry. The fruit is also more scattered on the bushes and thus more difficult to gather. It hangs on though much longer than that of the other species, thus producing a late fall fruit. The shrub of this species grows often 3 or 4 feet high, and sometimes higher, much higher and more diffuse than *V. membranaceum*. I have never seen it in thick patches, but always scattered thinly over quite large areas. We may say, then, that *V. ovalifolium* begins at a much lower altitude than *V. membranaceum*, goes up with, but drops out before the limit of the latter is reached. The flower of *V. ovalifolium* is quite a bright pink, while that of *V. membranaceum* is a yellowish green, sometimes pinkish.

*V. Canadense* was collected in two places only, one on a small burned-over area of about an acre at about 2,500 feet altitude at Revelstoke; the other locality was near the Horsefly River. The plants are much smaller than the eastern type and produce much smaller fruit. It produces, however, as heavily