

# PARTRIDGEBERRY

*Mitchella repens*

This is a low-growing, evergreen plant with creeping stems. The stems root as they grow along the ground so a single plant will grow over a large area. The dark green leaves may have a white pattern of veins. The small flowers are white and produced in pairs. The two flowers produce a single bright red berry. The plant forms an open groundcover that is well-suited to the open floor of a woodland but may not be satisfactory in a formal garden....It simply goes where it wants to go.

It grows well in a reasonably moist, well-drained, acidic soil and in dense shade. It is reported to grow naturally from zone 3 to 9. Plants may be found in specialty plant catalogs. They are propagated easily by cuttings and seeds. Plants in wooded parts of my garden grow there naturally with no assistance from me. They flower in spring and fruits ripen in September and October.

