**Ground Cherry** *Physalis pruinosa*

Ground cherries are tasty fresh or in desserts.

**Culture:** Sow indoors in well-draining containers in early spring, 6 weeks before last frost. Keep the seedlings at 75–85°F during the day, cooler at night. Transplant to 3 in. pots when 3–4 true leaves develop. Harden off and transplant to the garden after average last frost. Protect with covers if frost threatens! Mulch thickly. Provide fertile, well-drained soil and even moisture. Days to maturity are from transplanting. Most ground cherries set fruit throughout the U.S.

**Harvest:** The fruits fall to the ground when ripe.

**Seed Savers:** Self sows readily. To save seeds for home planting, isolate from varieties of the same species by at least 100 ft.