PLANT FACT SHEET

Leptospermum lanigerum (Sol. ex Aiton) Smith

GENUS *Leptospermum* **FAMILY** Myrtaceae

COMMON NAMES Woolly tea-tree, Silky Tea Tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves - tea

A tea like drink is made from the leaves.

DESCRIPTION

An erect shrub or small tree. It grows 2-5 m tall. It spreads 1.2-3 m wide. The stems are densely hairy. The leaves are dark green. They are oblong and 1.5 cm long by 2-4 mm wide. They are broadest near the tip. They are silky hairy underneath and taper to a blunt point. The flowers are white and with open petals. They are 1.5 cm across. The fruit is a 5 celled capsule. It is 12 mm across and is silky hairy at first.

HABITAT

It grows from temperate to subtropical locations. It grows from the coast to the mountains. It occurs in damp or swampy situations but also in well drained sites. It prefers moderately fertile soils in areas of high rainfall. It can grow in full sun or light shade. It can stand heavy frosts. It suits hardiness zones 8-10. Tasmania Herbarium. Arboretum Tasmania.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed or cuttings.

NOTES

There are about 82 Leptospermum species. Most grow in Australia.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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