PLANT FACT SHEET

Maytenus boaria Molina

GENUS *Maytenus* **FAMILY** Celastraceae

COMMON NAMES Mayten tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds - oil, Leaves

The seeds produce a cooking oil.
The leaves are eaten cooked.

DESCRIPTION

An evergreen tree. It grows 10 m high and spreads 4 m wide. The stem is erect and slender. The branches hang down. The crown is spreading. The leaves are narrowly oval and taper towards the tip. They are shiny green and have teeth along the edge. The flowers are small. The fruit are tiny orange berries.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It does best in rich, moist, well-drained soils. It needs an open sunny position. It is tender to frost and drought. In Chile it grows from 30-50° S. In Argentina it grows from sea level to 4,000m above sea level. Arboretum Tasmania.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown by seed or cuttings.

NOTES

There are about 200 Maytenus species. They grow in the tropics and subtropics. It has anticancer properties.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/079bf7be-29a2-4b2d-98ad-74355fcef3c1