PLANT FACT SHEET

Use with caution

This plant can be harmful if it is eaten raw, in large amounts or without the right preparation. Read the whole fact sheet before use.

Euonymus alatus (Thunb.) Siebold

GENUS *Euonymus* **FAMILY** Celastraceae

COMMON NAMES Winged spindle tree, Burning bush, Cork bush, Winged Euonymus

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Leaves, Stem - tea

Caution:
The young shoots are eaten in spring.
The stem is used to make a tea drink.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub 1.8-2.2 m tall and spreading 2.5-3 m wide. The branches have corky wings. There is a dense coverage of leaves. The leaves are opposite or almost so and 3-7 cm long. They are often widest above the middle. They taper to the base and have fine teeth along the edge. The leaves turn pink and crimson in the autumn. The flowers are small and green. They occur in sprays. The fruit are purple-red. The fruit burst open to reveal orange-coated seeds.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It is frost hardy. In China it grows from sea level to 2,700 m above sea level. It suits hardiness zones 3-9. Arboretum Tasmania. In Sichuan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed or cuttings.

NOTES

There are about 130-175 Euonymus species. It can be invasive.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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