PLANT FACT SHEET

Pistacia atlantica Desf.

GENUS *Pistacia* **FAMILY** Anacardiaceae

COMMON NAMES Atlantic pistachio

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Nuts, Fruit, Seeds, Seeds - oil, Shoots

The fruit are eaten raw. The dried fruit are added to parched wheat.
The nuts are crushed to produce an edible oil. The seeds are pounded and mixed with pounded dates.
The young shoots are eaten raw.
The resin is chewed.

DESCRIPTION

It is like Terebinth. A small deciduous tree. It grows 5-10 m high. The leaves have hairy stalks. The leaf stalk has narrow wings. The leaflets are sword shaped. Plants are separately male and female. The fruit are fleshy and 5-7 mm long by 4-6 mm wide. They are oval.

HABITAT

They suit dry Mediterranean regions. It grows in rocky places and open woodland. It cannot tolerate frost. It grows in areas with an annual rainfall of 50-800 mm. It suits arid places. It can grow in arid places. In Brisbane Botanical Gardens.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Trees can be grown from seed.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It grows slowly.

NOTES

There are 9-11 Pistacia species. Biblical references Genesis 35:4; Joshua 24:26; 2 Samuel 18:9, 14;

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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