PLANT FACT SHEET

Prunus dasycarpa Ehrhart

GENUS *Prunus* **FAMILY** Rosaceae

COMMON NAMES Black apricot, Purple apricot

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds

The fruit are eaten fresh. They can be used for marmalade. They are also used as a spice or flavouring. The seeds can be bitter but sweet kinds are eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 4-7 m tall. There are many branches that are thin and purplish red. The leaves are oval and 4-7 cm long by 3-5 cm wide. The plum like fruit are purple-black in colour. They have soft, juicy, slightly acid flesh. They are 3 cm across. Usually the seeds are bitter but are occasionally sweet.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

In western China plants flower in April to May and fruit June to July.

NOTES

There are about 200 Prunus species.

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