PLANT FACT SHEET

Rubus fruticosus L.

GENUS *Rubus* **FAMILY** Rosaceae

COMMON NAMES European blackberry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Leaves, Root

The young shoots are boiled and eaten. They are eaten in omelettes or with olive oil and lemon juice.
The fruit are eaten raw. They are also used in jams and juices. They are used in pies.
The young leaves are used for tea.

DESCRIPTION

A sprawling shrub. It keeps growing from year to year. It grows 0.9-1.8 m high and spreads 3-8 m wide. It spreads by long woody canes. These are armed with hooked prickles. Some plants can be thornless. The leaves are made up of 3-5 leaflets. These are oval or rounded. They have teeth along the edge. The upper surface is green and the lower surface is lighter and greyish. The leaf stalks are short and spiny. The flowers are white or pale pink. They occur in clusters. The fruit is made up of small fruitlets on a pithy core. They are in clusters at the ends of branches.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It suits high rainfall areas. In Hobart Botanical gardens. It suits hardiness zones 4-7. Tasmania Herbarium.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed, roots, or cuttings.

NOTES

There are about 250 Rubus species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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