PLANT FACT SHEET

Olea paniculata R. Brown

GENUS *Olea* **FAMILY** Oleaceae

COMMON NAMES Native olive, Australian olive

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Manna

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 6-25 m tall and spreads 5-12 m wide. Young growth is shiny. The branches are compressed. The leaf stalk is 1.5-3 cm long. The leaf blade is oval and 8.5-18 cm long by 3.5-6.5 cm wide. They are dark green and shiny above and paler underneath. They are papery. The leaves taper to the tip. The flowers are 0.3-0.4 cm across. They are greenish-white. The flowers are bisexual. The fruit ripens yellow-brown. It is 0.8-1.2 cm long by 0.6-0.8 cm wide.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows along streams and in dry rainforests. It needs well drained soil. It can tolerate light frost. In China it grows in moist valleys between 1200-2400 m altitude in S China. It suits hardiness zones 9-12.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from fresh seed. It can also be grown from cuttings.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Plants are quick growing.

NOTES

There are over 40 Olea species.

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