PLANT FACT SHEET

Crataegus pubescens Steud.

GENUS *Crataegus* **FAMILY** Rosaceae

COMMON NAMES Mexican hawthorn, Thorn apple

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are used to make jelly, jams and preserves. For stewing they are boiled with wood-ashes to remove the skin then boiled in hot syrup.

DESCRIPTION

A deciduous or semi-evergreen tree. It may or may not have thorns. It grows 6 m high and spreads 3 m wide. The leaves are up to 8 cm long. They are dark green but downy underneath. They turn orange to red in autumn. The flowers are white. The fruit are round or pear shaped. They are yellow-orange.

HABITAT

It is a warm temperate and subtropical plant. It can grow in the highlands in the tropics. It will grow in most soils. It needs an open sunny position. It is resistant to drought but damaged by frost. It can grow in arid regions. It suits hardiness zones 7-10. Kyneton Botanical Gardens.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed. The seed need cold treatment. Plants can also be grafted.

NOTES

There are 200 or more Crataegus species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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