PLANT FACT SHEET

Aesculus x carnea Hayne

GENUS *Aesculus* **FAMILY** Sapindaceae

COMMON NAMES Red Horse chestnut, Pink Horse Chestnut

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds

The seed can be eaten after slow roasting and preferably extended washing to remove saponins.

DESCRIPTION

A deciduous tree. It grows 20 m tall. The bark is reddish-brown. The leaves are divided like fingers on a hand into 5-7 lobes. These are long but fattened and have sharp teeth. The leaflets can be twisted. The leaves are 25 cm long. The flowers are creamy white with red blotches. They are in a spreading panicle. This can be 20 cm long. The fruit are fairly smooth and 4 cm across. The fruit contain up to 3 seeds.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. Dormant trees tolerate temperatures down to -15°C. It suits hardiness zones 6-9. Arboretum Tasmania.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants breed true from seed. It can be grown from seed and breeds true from seed. (Due to a doubling of the chromosomes.)

NOTES

There are 15 Aesculus species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/2c2028ea-1bd6-4b49-b172-e418a38bf676