PLANT FACT SHEET

Rhaphiolepis umbellata (Thunb.) Makino

GENUS *Rhaphiolepis* **FAMILY** Rosaceae

COMMON NAMES Japanese hawthorn, Yeddo hawthorn

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Fruit

The fruit are cooked and eaten. They are also used for jam.
The seeds are edible.

DESCRIPTION

A bushy shrub. It grows 2-3 m tall. It spreads 2 m wide. The young stems have a dense covering of woolly hairs but these fall off. The leaf blade is broadly oval or half round and 4-9 cm long by 2.5-5 cm wide. It narrows into the leaf stalk. The leaf edges curve back slightly. There can be some teeth near the tip. The flowering shoot is stiff and branched. It is 4-8 cm long. There are usually 5-20 flowers. The flowers have a scent. The flower stalks are 3-10 mm long. The petals are broad and oval and 7-10 mm long. They are rounded and white. The fruit is flattened round shape or pear shape and 7-8 mm long. It is blue-black.

HABITAT

It is a warm temperate to subtropical plant. It grows in thickets near the seashore. It suits hardiness zones 8-11. Tasmanian Botanical Gardens. Wittunga Botanical Gardens. Arboretum Tasmania.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In China plants flower in April to June and fruit in September to November.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/35855fdf-d77b-42a6-9ad5-f0f69a6ffd1d