PLANT FACT SHEET

Crassula ovata (Mill.) Druce

GENUS *Crassula* **FAMILY** Crassulaceae

COMMON NAMES Jade plant, Stone crop

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Root, Tubers

The roots have been eaten by Hottentots. They are grated, cooked and eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A succulent bush or tree. It grows up to 4.5 m tall. The trunk is thick and silvery brown. The twigs are thick and silvery. These thick rubbery branches are easily broken. The leaves are fleshy and without stalks. They are short and broad and carried in opposite pairs. Each pair is arranged at right angles to the next. The flowers are small, pink and star shaped. They occur in clusters at the ends of branches. The fruit are small capsules with many very small seeds.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. It grows on rocky hillsides. It can grow in an average to poor, well-drained soil. It can grow in dry soils. It can grow in arid places. It suits hardiness zones 10-11. Brisbane Botanical Gardens.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

They are easily grown from seed, or cuttings. Seeds are very small. The cuttings need to be kept fairly dry to prevent rots.

NOTES

There are 216 succulent Crassula species. There are also other Crassula species. There are 300 total.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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