PLANT FACT SHEET

Parthenocissus tricuspidata (Siebold & Zuccarini) Planchon

GENUS *Parthenocissus* **FAMILY** Vitaceae

COMMON NAMES Japanese creeper, Boston Ivy, Virginia creeper

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Stem sap

The sap from the branches is boiled and used as a sweetener.
The stems after the leaves fall is chewed like sugarcane.
The shoots are put into pickled cucumbers.

DESCRIPTION

A deciduous shrub. It is creeping and twines on rocks and fences. The tendrils have disks on them that attach to walls. Plants grow 20 m high. The leaves are of 2 types. The leaves on the stem are large and have 3 lobes. The edges have small teeth. The leaves are 5-15 cm wide. They are broadly oval with a heart shaped base. The leaf stalk is 15 cm long. The leaves on the non flowering stems are smaller and have 3 leaflets. The flowers are small and green-yellow. They are in groups 3-6 cm long. The fruit are like small grapes. They are round and dark purple. They are 4-5 mm across.

HABITAT

It is a cool temperate plant. It grows in shrublands, cliffs and rocky hillsides in north China between 100-1,200 m above sea level. It suits hardiness zone 4.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown by seed, cuttings or layering.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It can grow 150-200 cm per year.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

REFERENCES

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/3acc4531-8a07-45d9-aebe-5efe734aa593