PLANT FACT SHEET

Juniperus excelsa M. Bieberstein

GENUS *Juniperus* **FAMILY** Cupressaceae

COMMON NAMES Grecian juniper, Greek juniper

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Bark - flavouring

The bark is burnt and used as flavouring in snuff.

DESCRIPTION

A tall tree. It grows about 21 m high. It has a loose cone shaped crown. The bark is grey and peels in long strips. The leaves are small and grey-green. They are in sprays on fine branches. The fruit are round. They are green and ripen to purplish-brown and with a whitish bloom. They are 7-8 mm across and have 4-6 seeds.

HABITAT

It grows naturally in Mediterranean counties. It grows on rocky mountian slopes. In Somalia it grows between 1,800-2,900 m above sea level. It suits hardiness zones 5-8.

NOTES

There are 50 to 60 Juniperus species. The fruit is used in medicine.

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