PLANT FACT SHEET

Pyrola minor L.

GENUS *Pyrola* **FAMILY** Ericaceae

COMMON NAMES Common Wintergreen, Lesser wintergreen

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Fruit

The leaves are used sparingly in salads.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It keeps growing from year to year and is evergreen. The rhizome or underground stem is slender and 0.5-1 mm thick. The leaf blade is green on top and pale green underneath. The flowers droop. There are 7-16 flowers in a group. The flowers are white. The fruit is a capsule which hangs down. It is 4-6 mm across. It has many very small seeds.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows in cool temperate and sub-arctic zones. It grows in sub-alpine deciduous broad-leaved forests between 500-2500 m altitude. It grows in acid soils and on sand dunes.

NOTES

There are about 30-40 Pyrola species. They are temperate. Also put in the family Pyrolaceae.

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