PLANT FACT SHEET

Elaeagnus macrophylla Thunb.

GENUS *Elaeagnus* **FAMILY** Elaeagnaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds

The fruit need to be fully ripe and can then be eaten raw or cooked.
The seed can be eaten fresh or cooked. They are often steamed and dried.

DESCRIPTION

A large spreading shrub. It grows 3 m tall. It spreads 3.5 m wide. The leaves are broadly oval and covered with silvery scales. The upper surface becomes green. The flowers are silvery and fragrant. The fruit are red and scaly. They are 3 cm across. They are edible.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows in full sun or light shade. It grows near seashores. It is tolerant of wind and coastal exposure. It is resistant to frost and drought. It suits hardiness zones 7-10.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown from seeds. Seeds do not grow easily. It can be grown from cuttings.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It is fast growing. In China plants flower on September and October and fruit March to May.

NOTES

There are 45 Elaeagnus species.

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