PLANT FACT SHEET

Capparis lucida (DC.) R. Br. ex Benth.

GENUS *Capparis* **FAMILY** Capparaceae

COMMON NAMES Coastal caper, Native Caper, Wood Caper

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Buds

DESCRIPTION

A vine, shrub or tree up to 12 m high. The leaves are simple and 3-10 cm long. They can have a few hairs along the midrib on the upper side. The leaves are shiny. The flowers are white or pale yellow. They are 3-4 cm across. They occur on stalks 2-5 cm long in clusters at the ends of branches. The fruit are 17-50 mm across. They can occur singly or in bunches. They are red, purple or black. There are several seeds. These are 6-8 mm long. The flesh is edible.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows naturally in lowland rainforest in Queensland, Australia. It needs well-drained soil and full sun. It grows at low elevations close to the beach.

PRODUCTION

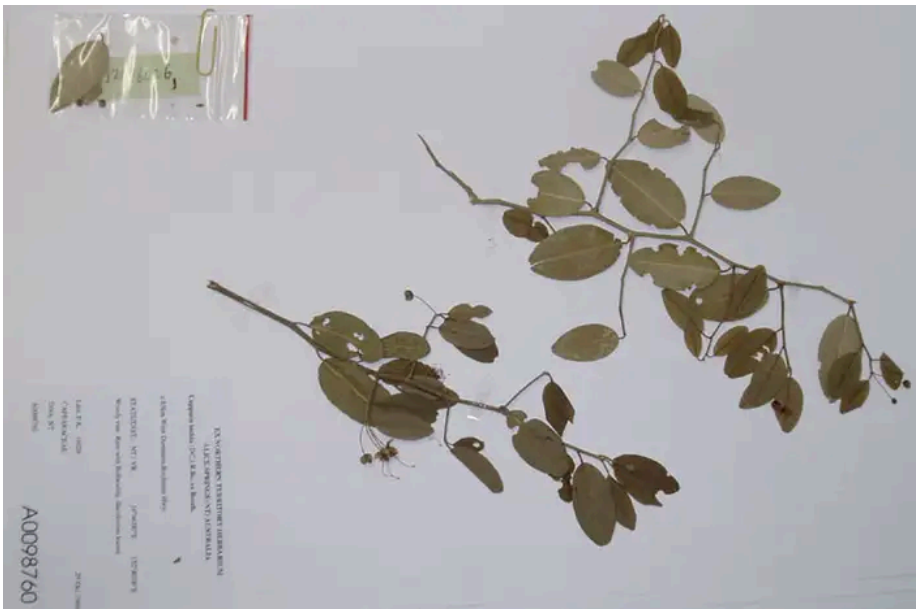
Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed.

NOTES

There are about 250 Capparis species. There are about 50 Capparis species in tropical America.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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