PLANT FACT SHEET

Myrica serrata Lam.

GENUS *Myrica* **FAMILY** Myricaceae

COMMON NAMES Waxberry, Lance-leaf waxberry, Southern wax myrtle

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit is eaten by some people. The fruit is eaten as a snack.

DESCRIPTION

A leafy bush. Sometimes it grows up to 6 m tall. The trunk is light pale grey with small raised dots across it. The young leaves can be a rich golden colour. The leaves are long and slender. They are 15 cm long by 1-2.5 cm wide. They are pointed at the tip and narrowed towards the base. Often they have teeth along the edge. The flowers are small and without petals. The flowers are crowded onto short spikes. The male and female flowers can occur on the same or on different plants. Flowers are pollinated by bees. The fruit are small and round. They are 5 mm across. They are bluish-black when ripe. They have a waxy coating.

HABITAT

A subtropical plant. It grows naturally along stream banks, in forests, and on coastal flats. It suits hardiness zones 9-10.

NOTES

There are about 50 Myrica species.

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French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/5bf31ee8-d8ac-4a11-8217-915a5e88e244