PLANT FACT SHEET

Malus prunifolia (Willdenow) Borkhausen

GENUS *Malus* **FAMILY** Rosaceae

COMMON NAMES Chinese apple, Pear-leaf Crabapple, Plum-leaved apple, Qiu zi

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are eaten fresh. They are also preserved in sugar.

DESCRIPTION

A deciduous tree. It grows 10 m tall. It is a broad spreading shape. The bark is purple-brown to grey-brown. It flakes into rectangular plates. The bark is red-brown when freshly exposed. The leaves are narrowly oval and 10 cm long by 6 cm wide. They are dark green and have teeth. The flower buds are pink. The flowers are white. They are 4 cm across and have a scent. They occur in clusters of up to 10. The fruit are rounded and bright red. They are 2.5 cm across. They are woolly sepals at the top which persist.

HABITAT

Temperate. It suits hardiness zones 3-9. It is resistant to frost and drought. In north China it grows from sea level to 1,300 m above sea level.

NOTES

There are about 35 Malus species and very many cultivated varieties.

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