PLANT FACT SHEET

Davidsonia pruriens F. Muell.

GENUS *Davidsonia* **FAMILY** Cunoniaceae

COMMON NAMES Davidson's plum, Queensland Itch tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are stewed with sugar or made into jam or jelly. It is also used for salad dressings and sauce.

DESCRIPTION

A tall shrub or small tree. It grows up to 3-9 m tall. It spreads 1.5-5 m across. The trunk can be 30 cm across. The leaves are compound. There are 9-19 leaflets. These are 6-30 cm long. They are hairy. The leaflets have teeth along the edge. The fruit are 3-5 cm long by 4-6 cm wide. They hang in bunches in the axils of leaves. The surface of the fruit have fine golden hairs which are irritating. There are 2 seeds inside. The fruit are edible.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in tropical and subtropical places. It grows naturally in rainforest in Queensland and New South Wales in Australia. In Adelaide Botanical Gardens hot house. It needs well drained soil and is best in light shade. It is damaged by drought and frost. In tropical Queensland it grows between sea level and 1095 m altitude.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown from fresh seed. It can also be grown from cuttings. Suckers can also be used.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It is slow growing. Once established it grows more rapidly.

NOTES

There are 2 Davidsonia species. It is high in anti-oxidants.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

REFERENCES

Alice, L. & O'Quinn, T., Australian Bush Superfoods. Explore Australia p 46

Arora, R. K., 2014, Diversity in Underutilized Plant Species - An Asia-Pacific Perspective. Bioversity International. p 66

Bailey, F. M., 1913, Comprehensive Catalogue of Queensland Plants. Queensland Government.

Beasley, J., 2011, Plants of Tropical North Queensland - the compact guide. Footloose publications. p 109

Bodkin, F., 1991, Encyclopedia Botanica. Cornstalk publishing, p 328

Bonney, N., 1997, Economic Native Trees and Shrubs for South Australia. Greening Australia (SA) inc. Campbelltown SA 5074 p 168

Bonney, N., 2012, Edible Wild Native Plants for Southern Australia. p 33

Cherikoff V. & Isaacs, J., The Bush Food Handbook. How to gather, grow, process and cook Australian Wild Foods. Ti Tree Press, Australia p 82, 192, 199

Cooper W & Cooper W T, 1994, Fruits of the Rain Forest. RD Press p 88

Cooper, W. and Cooper, W., 2004, Fruits of the Australian Tropical Rainforest. Nokomis Editions, Victoria, Australia. p 149

Cribb, A.B. & J.W., 1976, Wild Food in Australia, Fontana. p 27

Cronin, L., 1989, The Concise Australian Flora. Reed. p 173

Doran, J.C., & Turnbull, J.W. (Eds), 1997, Australian Trees and Shrubs: species for land rehabilitation and farm plantings in the tropics. ACIAR Monograph No 24. p 270

Elliot, W.R., & Jones, D.L., 1984, Encyclopedia of Australian Plants suitable for cultivation. Vol 3. Lothian. p 199

Facciola, S., 1998, Cornucopia 2: a Source Book of Edible Plants. Kampong Publications, p 91

Fragm. 6:4. 1867

Greig, D., 1996, Flowering Natives for Home Gardens. Angus & Robertson. p 136

Hibbert, M., 2002, The Aussie Plant Finder 2002, Florilegium. p 83

Hiddins, L., 1999, Explore Wild Australia with the Bush Tucker Man. Penguin Books/ABC Books. p 138

Isaacs, J., 1987, Bush Food, Aboriginal Food and Herbal Medicine. Weldons. p 77

Jackes, B.R., 2001, Plants of the Tropics. Rainforest to Heath. An Identification Guide. James Cook University. p 49

Jones D, L, 1986, Ornamental Rainforest Plants in Australia, Reed Books, p 209, 340

Lazarides, M. & Hince, B., 1993, Handbook of Economic Plants of Australia, CSIRO. p 77

Lord, E.E., & Willis, J.H., 1999, Shrubs and Trees for Australian gardens. Lothian. p 14

Low, T., 1991, Wild Food Plants of Australia. Australian Nature FieldGuide, Angus & Robertson. p 90

Lyle, S., 2006, Discovering fruit and nuts. Land Links. p 178

Macmillan, H.F. (Revised Barlow, H.S., et al) 1991, Tropical Planting and Gardening. Sixth edition. Malayan Nature Society. Kuala Lumpur. p 297

Miller, J. B., James, K. W. and Maggiore, P.M.A., 1993, Tables of Composition of Australian Aboriginal Foods. Aboriginal Studies Press. Canberra

Molyneux, B & Forrester, S., 1997, The Austraflora A-Z of Australian Plants. Reed. p 73

Morley, B.D., & Toelken, H.R., (Eds), 1983, Flowering Plants in Australia. Rigby. p 137

Nicholson, N & H., 1996, Australian Rainforest Plants 2, Terania Rainforest Publishing. NSW. p 22

Radke, P & A, Sankowsky, G & N., 1993, Growing Australian Tropical Plants. Frith & Frith, Australia. p 31

Ratcliffe D & P., 1987, Australian Native Plants for Indoors. Little Hills press. p 78

Recher, P, 2001, Fruit Spirit Botanical Gardens Plant Index. www.nrg.com.au/~recher/ seedlist.html p 2

Robins, J., 1996, Wild Lime. Cooking from the Bush food garden. Allen & Unwin p 81

Salem, L., Thompson, E., and Elvin, H. L., Bush Tucker in Kidney Failure and Diabetes. AMGEN

Smith, A.C., 1985, Flora Vitiensis Nova, Lawaii, Kuai, Hawaii, Volume 3 p 27

Smith, K & I., 1999, Grow your own bushfoods. New Holland. Australia. p 30

Townsend, K., 1994, Across the Top. Gardening with Australian Plants in the tropics. Society for Growing Australian Plants, Townsville Branch Inc. p 155

Williams, J.B., Harden, G.J., and McDonald, W.J.F., 1984, Trees and shrubs in rainforests of New South Wales and Southern Queensland. Univ. of New England, Armidale. p 30

World Checklist of Useful Plant Species 2020. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/5d324526-ae34-4c43-92cf-0e69255ac3e1