PLANT FACT SHEET

Capparis spinosa subsp. nummularia L., (DC.) Bailey

GENUS *Capparis* **FAMILY** Capparaceae

COMMON NAMES Caper bush, Flinder's rose, Wild passionfruit

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Flower buds - spice

The fruit are eaten. They are harvested after they split open when ripe.
The buds are pickled as capers.

DESCRIPTION

A small shrub. The branches are wiry and have spines. The spines curve backwards along the stems. The leaves are 2-4 cm across. They are rounded and have a thick texture. They are dull green. The leaf stalks are 1 cm long. The flowers are 6 cm across. They have 3 white petals. The flowers have a scent. The fruit is a berry 3 cm long. It bursts open when ripe. The fruit are edible. The buds are edible.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows along stream banks and rocky coastal areas in northern Australia. It has salt tolerance to sea spray. It can grow in arid places.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed or cuttings.

NOTES

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

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