PLANT FACT SHEET

Sannantha virgata (Forst. & Forst. f.) Peter G. Wilson

GENUS *Sannantha* **FAMILY** Myrtaceae

COMMON NAMES Twiggy Heath Myrtle, Tall Baeckea, Twiggy Baeckea

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves - tea

The leaves are used for tea.

DESCRIPTION

An erect shrub. It grows 1-3 m high and spreads 1-2 m across. The stems are slender and spreading. They sometimes hang downwards at the ends. The leaves are sword shaped and 1-2.5 cm long and 2-6 mm wide. The midrib is easy to see. The flowers are small and white. They are 8 mm across and with 5 rounded petals. They are grouped into clusters of 3-7 flowers together. The fruit is a tiny capsule 3 mm across.

HABITAT

It occurs in coastal districts. It grows in heath and open forests often along stream banks. It suits temperate and subtropical climates. It can tolerate heavy frosts. It needs moist well drained soils. It suits hardiness zones 9-10. Wittunga Botanical Gardens.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown from seed or by tip cuttings.

NOTES

There are 70 Baeckea species. Most are in Australia.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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