PLANT FACT SHEET

Didymocheton spectabilis (G. Forst.) Mabb. & Holzmeyer

GENUS *Didymocheton* **FAMILY** Meliaceae

COMMON NAMES Kohe, Kohekohe, Wahahe

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves

The leaves have been used as a substitute for hops.

DESCRIPTION

A tree with a stout column like trunk. It grows about 8 m high. The crown is rounded. The leaves are large and glossy. They have leaflets along the stalk. The flowers are greenish-white and waxy and hang in droops. They grow on the trunks and branches. They can be 30 cm long. The fruit capsule has 3-4 cells. They are 2.5 cm across. It opens after 15 months to reveal 2 seeds in a fleshy red aril.

HABITAT

It grows in lowland and coastal regions in New Zealand. It is mostly in damp locations. It is best in deep, moist loam soils. It needs a protected, sunny position. It is resistant to frost and damaged by drought.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed. Seed germinate easily.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It is fast growing.

REFERENCES

Bodkin, F., 1991, Encyclopedia Botanica. Cornstalk publishing, p 367 (As Dysoxylum spectabile)

Crowe, A., 1997, A Field Guide to the Native Edible Plants of New Zealand. Penguin. p 154 (As Dysoxylum spectabile)

Handb. N. Zeal. fl. 41. 1864 (As Dysoxylum spectabile)

Hedrick, U.P., 1919, (Ed.), Sturtevant's edible plants of the world. p 284 (As Dysoxylum spectabile)

Matthews, J., 1987, New Zealand Native Plants for your Garden. Pacific Publishers, p 46 (As Dysoxylum spectabile)

Salmon, J.T., 1989, The Native Trees of New Zealand. Heinmann Reid p 240 (As Dysoxylum spectabile)

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/63093012-d8f8-4d46-b52b-4e38435930dc