PLANT FACT SHEET

Dendrocnide photinophylla (Kunth.) Chew

GENUS *Dendrocnide* **FAMILY** Urticaceae

COMMON NAMES Shiny-leaved Stinging Tree, Mulberry-leaved Stinging Tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

Caution: The plant has stinging hairs.
The fruit are eaten after the stinging hairs are removed.

DESCRIPTION

A tall tree. It grows to 25 m tall. The leaves are oval with a long tip. They are thick and dark green. They are shiny on top and dull underneath. Leaves are 5-12 cm long by 2-6 cm wide. The new growth is smooth and soft. The male and female flowers are separate. They are in panicles in the axils of leaves. These are 5-6 cm long. The fruit is a nut 0.1-0.2 cm across. There are fleshy white stalks around it. It is probably possible to select forms which do not have stinging hairs.

HABITAT

A subtropical plant. It grows naturally in Queensland and New South Wales in Australia. It grows from sea level to 800 m above sea level. It prefers rich, well-composted soils. It needs an open sunny position. It is damaged by drought and frost.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed or by cuttings.

NOTES

The leaves cause serious stinging to hands. There are 36 Dendrocnide species.

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