PLANT FACT SHEET

Agathosma betulina (P. J. Bergius) Pillans

GENUS *Agathosma* **FAMILY** Rutaceae

COMMON NAMES Buchu, Round leaf buchu

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Oil, Leaves - tea, Root, Flavouring

The leaves and oil are used for flavouring. An oil extract is used to flavour candy, ice cream and baked goods.
The leaves are used in the preparation of brandy.
The roots are use as a flavouring and preservative.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub. It grows 2 m high. The leaves are small, broad and dotted with glands. The flowers are white or pale purple.

HABITAT

A subtropical plant. It grows in the high mountains of the Western cape province of South Africa. It grows in areas with an annual rainfall between 400-700 mm. It can grow in arid places.

NOTES

There are about 135 Agathosma species.

REFERENCES

Facciola, S., 1998, Cornucopia 2: a Source Book of Edible Plants. Kampong Publications, p 213

J. S. African Bot. 16:75. 1950

Morton,

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (1999). Survey of Economic Plants for Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (SEPASAL) database. Published on the Internet; http://www.rbgkew.org.uk/ceb/sepasal/internet [Accessed 10th June 2011]

Ruiters-Welcome, A. K., 2019, Food plants of southern Africa. Ph.D. thesis. Univ. of Johannesburg p 98

Seidemann J., 2005, World Spice Plants. Economic Usage, Botany, Taxonomy. Springer. p 12 (As Barosma betulina)

van Wyk, B., 2005, Food Plants of the World. An illustrated guide. Timber press. p 44

van Wyk, B-E., 2011, The potential of South African plants in the development of new food and beverage products. South African Journal of Botany 77 (2011) 857–868

Welcome, A. K. & Van Wyk, B.-E., 2019, An inventory and analysis of the food plants of southern Africa. South African Journal of Botany 122 (2019) 136–179

Wiersema, J. H. & Leon, B., 2013, World Economic Plants. A Standard Reference CRC Press. 2nd Ed. p 24

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/670bb641-b74c-42e3-879c-d2c1d26b50b5