PLANT FACT SHEET

Rosa carolina L.

GENUS *Rosa* **FAMILY** Rosaceae

COMMON NAMES Wild rose, Carolina rose, Pasture rose

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Hips, Flowers

The fruit are processed into syrup or jam.
The flower petals are used in tossed salads or made into jelly or wine.
The leaves are washed and dried and used for tea.

DESCRIPTION

A low shrub. It grows 1-1.5 m high. The branches are slender and arch over. They have stiff hairs and curving spines. The leaves are compound with 3-9 leaflets. They are alternate and fall off during the year. Each leaflet is widest near the middle. They are 2-4 cm long. They are pointed at the tip and have teeth along the edge. The flowers occur singly. They have 5 pink petals. The fruit are round and red and fleshy. They are 5-10 mm across. They contain several small seeds.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows in open woodlands and on the edge of fields. It suits hardiness zones 4-8.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown by seeds or cuttings.

NOTES

There are about 150 Rosa species and many cultivated varieties.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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