PLANT FACT SHEET

Prunus japonica Thunb.

GENUS *Prunus* **FAMILY** Rosaceae

COMMON NAMES Korean cherry, Chinese cherry, Japanese plum, Niwa ume, Oriental bush cherry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds

The fruit are eaten raw or used in pies.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub. It loses its leaves during the year. It grows 1.5 m tall and spreads 0.9-1.8 m wide. The branches are thin. The leaves have teeth along the edge. The flowers are small and white or pink. They occur in clusters. The fruit are small and cherry like and red.

HABITAT

Temperate. It will grow in a range of soils. It needs a sunny position. In northern China it grows between 100-200 m above sea level. It suits hardiness zones 4-9.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown by division, seed, stem cuttings or layering.

NOTES

There are about 200 Prunus species.

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