PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Laurelia sempervirens* Tul.

**GENUS** *Laurelia* **FAMILY** Monimiaceae

**COMMON NAMES** Chile laurel, Peruvian nutmeg, Trihue

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Seeds, Bark, Leaves, Spice, Fruit

The bark, leaves and fruit are used as a spice. They are a substitute for nutmeg.

## DESCRIPTION

An evergreen shrub. It can grow to 15 m tall. The branches droop. The leaves are bright green and leathery. They have teeth around the edge and produce an aroma when crushed. The flowers are very small.

## HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows naturally in the mountains in central Chile. Tropical. It can grow in full sun of part shade. It needs to be sheltered from cold drying winds. The soils should be moderately fertile, moist and well-drained. Geelong Botanical Gardens. Mt Lofty Botanical Gardens. Arboretum Tasmania.

## PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

## REFERENCES


Arch. Mus. Hist. Nat. 8:416. 1855

Encycl. suppl. 3:313. 1813 (As Laurelia aromatica)

Facciola, S., 1998, Cornucopia 2: a Source Book of Edible Plants. Kampong Publications, p 45 (As Laurelia aromatica)

Grandtner, M. M. & Chevrette, J., 2013, Dictionary of Trees, Volume 2: South America: Nomenclature, Taxonomy and Ecology. Academic Press p 343

Hedrick, U.P., 1919, (Ed.), Sturtevant's edible plants of the world. p 374 (As Laurelia aromatica)

Heywood, V.H., Brummitt, R.K., Culham, A., and Seberg, O. 2007, Flowering Plant Families of the World. Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew. p 52

Kermath, B. M., et al, 2014, Food Plants in the Americas: A survey of the domesticated, cultivated and wild plants used for Human food in North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. On line draft. p 474

Kunkel, (As Laurelia aromatica)

Marinelli, J. (Ed), 2004, Plant. DK. p 110

Phillips, R. & Rix, M., 2002, The Botanical Garden Vol. 1. Trees and Shrubs. MacMillan. p 64

Ryan, S., 2008, Dicksonia. Rare Plants Manual. Hyland House. p 36

Seidemann J., 2005, World Spice Plants. Economic Usage, Botany, Taxonomy. Springer. p 198 (Also as Laurelia aromatica)

Uphof, 1968, (As Laurelia aromatica)

Wickens, G.E., 1995, Edible Nuts. FAO Non-wood forest products. FAO, Rome. p 143

Wiersema, J. H. & Leon, B., 2013, World Economic Plants. A Standard Reference CRC Press. 2nd Ed. p 392

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/7c51fccf-4dbe-4b78-9268-1dc31b4e68a0