PLANT FACT SHEET

Lumnitzera racemosa Willd.

GENUS *Lumnitzera* **FAMILY** Combretaceae

COMMON NAMES White flowered black mangrove

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves

The leaves are eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or small tree. It grows to 4-8 m tall and spreads to 1-2 m wide Young plant parts have small hairs. The bark is rough and dark grey and has slight cracks along it. The leaves are often clustered near the ends of branches. They are arranged in spirals. The leaves are oval and 3-6 cm long by 1-2 cm wide. They are rounded at the tip and taper at the base. They are leathery and light green. There is often a notch at the tip of the leaf. The flowering stalks in the axils of leaves are branched and produce 3-7 flowers. The flowers are fleshy and white. The flower lobes are triangular and petals are 4 mm long by 1 mm wide. The fruit is narrow and oval. It is 12 mm long by 4 mm wide. The fruit is fibrous and has a single seed.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It normally grows in mud flats which are flooded by the tide. It is normally near river mouths where fresh water also flows.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It is grown from seed.

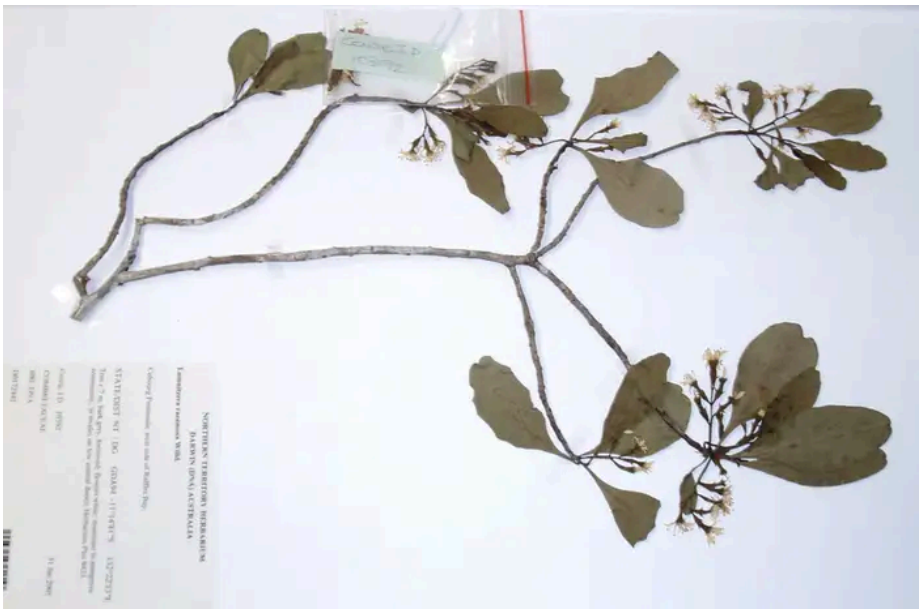
Harvesting and Seed Production

In Australia, plants flower from October to May and fruit from January to June.

NOTES

It provides a good slow burning firewood. There are 3 Lumnitzera species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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