PLANT FACT SHEET

Ficus microcarpa L.f.

GENUS *Ficus* **FAMILY** Moraceae

COMMON NAMES Small-fruited Fig, Curtain fig, Laurel fig

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Aerial root - tea

The fruit are eaten.
The aerial root is eaten in stews and soups.

DESCRIPTION

A fig. It is an evergreen tree. It grows 15-25 m tall and spreads to 5 m across. The trunk can be 50 cm wide. The stem is erect and has buttresses. There are aerial roots. The bark is light grey and smooth. The branches are low and it has an open crown. It has a curtain of strangling roots. The leaves are dark green and shiny above and light green underneath. They are oval and pointed. They are 6-12 cm long by 2-7 cm wide. The leaf stalks are 0.5-1.5 cm long. The figs are rosy red or purple and round. They are produced singly or in pairs and are 1.2 cm across. They do not have fruit stalks. The fruit are edible. This plant varies considerably and 3 different varieties are known.

HABITAT

It grows in tropical and subtropical climates. It grows in light to medium soils. It does best in an open sunny position. It is drought resistant but damaged by frost. They need a temperature above 13°C. It is often in coastal rainforests. It suits humid locations. It suits hardiness zones 10-12. In XTBG Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown by tip cuttings. They can also be grown from seed or by aerial layering.

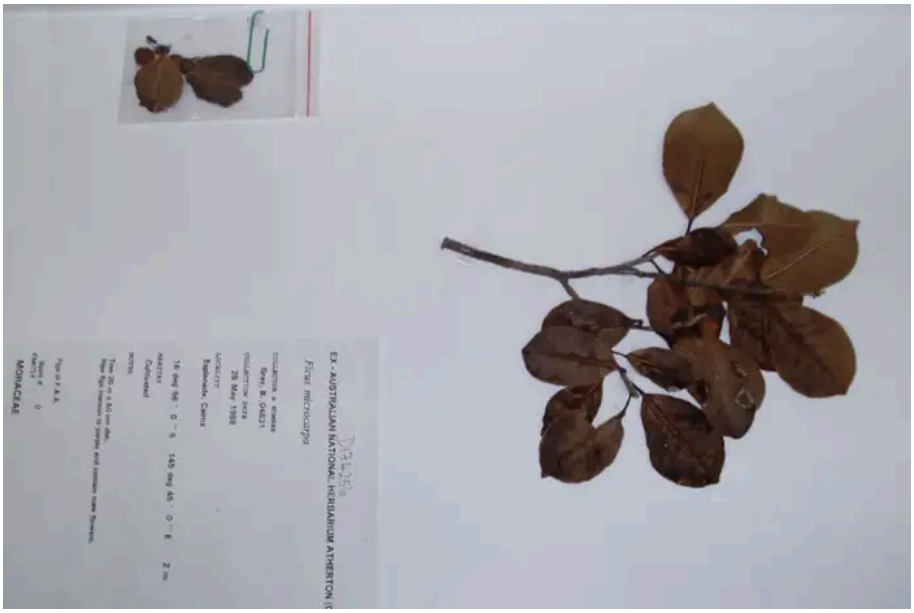
Harvesting and Seed Production

In Australia trees fruit from January to August.

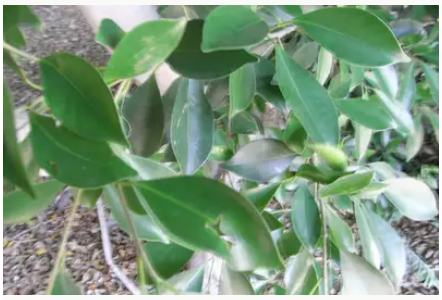
NOTES

There are about 800-1000 Ficus species. They are mostly in the tropics. There are 120 Ficus species in tropical America. It can be invasive.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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