PLANT FACT SHEET

Empetrum rubrum Vahl. ex Willd.

GENUS *Empetrum* **FAMILY** Ericaceae

COMMON NAMES Eames' Purple Crowberry, South American crowberry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are eaten raw. They are sour and are used for puddings.

DESCRIPTION

A small shrub. It grows 80 cm high. The leaves are 2-6 cm long by 1-2 cm wide. The flowers are red. They have 6 petals. The fruit are red. They are 4-7 mm across.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. In Chile it grows from sea level to 2,600 m altitude. It grows in drier areas with a winter rainfall of 400-800 mm. It is also in humid, constantly wet areas. It grows in full sun. It suits hardiness zone 7. It can tolerate frost and snow. It is best in acid soil with high levels of organic matter.

NOTES

Also put in the family Empetraceae.
It has antioxidant properties.

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French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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