PLANT FACT SHEET

Coprosma nitida Hook. f.

GENUS *Coprosma* **FAMILY** Rubiaceae

COMMON NAMES Mountain currant, Mountain Currant Bush, Shining Coprosma

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit can be eaten. They can be used in pies and cakes and tarts.

DESCRIPTION

A prickly shrub. It is often less than 1 m tall but can be 3 m tall. The leaves are shiny. They are 10 mm long and 5 mm wide. The leaves occur opposite each other along the stem. Male and female flowers occur on different plants. The petals are small and the stamens or styles are large. The fruit are orange-red and shiny. They are edible.

HABITAT

It grows in alpine regions often on drier dolerite mountains among rocks. It grows above 900 m altitude in cool temperate locations. It can tolerate snow and frost. Tasmania Herbarium.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed. Seed can be collected from the fleshy fruit. They can also be grown from stem cuttings. If the seeds have been dried and stored they need pre-treatment before sowing. They can be soaked in vinegar or other acid for 24 hours or longer. They should be then drained and rinsed before sowing. They can be sown in a nursery in potting mix and transplanted out to small pots then the garden situation.

NOTES

There are about 90 Coprosma species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/84c88839-51a5-4644-9886-d0c8f7ee7393