PLANT FACT SHEET

Ilex glabra (L.) A. Gray

GENUS *Ilex* **FAMILY** Aquifoliaceae

COMMON NAMES Appalachian tea, Bitter gallberry, Gallberry, Inkberry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves - tea

The leaves are dried and roasted and used to make tea. They contain caffeine.
The flowers yield a distinctive honey.

DESCRIPTION

An evergreen shrub. It grows to 3 m high. It spreads about 3 m wide. The leaves are narrow and deep green. The flowers are small and white. The fruit are glossy and black.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It suits hardiness zones 3-10. Arboretum Tasmania.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed but germination is slow. They can also be grown from cuttings. It has roots near the soil surface so can be damaged by weeding and digging.

NOTES

There are about 400 Ilex species.

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