PLANT FACT SHEET

Betula nana L.

GENUS *Betula* **FAMILY** Betulaceae

COMMON NAMES Bog Birch, Birch, Dwarf Birch, Smooth Dwarf, Swamp Birch

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Flowers, Leaves - tea

The leaves and twigs are used for tea drinks.

DESCRIPTION

A low shrub. It loses its leaves during the year. It grows 0.6 m high and spread 1.2 m wide. It forms thickets. The leaves are small. They are 18 mm long. They are kidney shaped or rounded. They are thick textured. The leaves are dark green and have fine teeth. The leaves turn yellow and red in autumn. The flower catkins are 12 mm long.

HABITAT

Cold temperate. It grows above the Arctic circle. It grows in the tundra and in bogs and on low hills. It is resistant to frost but damaged by drought. It suits hardiness zones 2-7.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed.

NOTES

There are about 60 Betula species. They grow in cool north temperate climates.

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