PLANT FACT SHEET

Oplopanax horridus (Sm.) Torr. & Gray ex Miq.

GENUS *Oplopanax* **FAMILY** Araliaceae

COMMON NAMES Devil's club

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Root, Shoots, Flavouring

The roots and young fleshy stems are cooked and eaten.
The young leaves before the spines stiffen can be eaten raw or cooked in soups and casseroles.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub. It loses its leaves during the year. It grows 0.9-3 m high and spreads 1.5 m wide. It has spiny branches. These are often trailing. The leaves are like maple leaves. There are spines down the middle of the leaf underneath. The flowers are white. They are in pyramid shaped clusters. These can be 10-25 cm long. The fruit are shiny red berries. They occur in clusters.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows on stony soils in woods. It suits hardiness zones 4-9.

NOTES

There are 3 Oplopanax species. They grow in the northern temperate regions. It is used in medicine.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/9078de7c-31c0-44f2-9e3f-51de992a83be