PLANT FACT SHEET

Cyathea dealbata (G. Forster) Swartz

GENUS *Cyathea* **FAMILY** Cyatheaceae

COMMON NAMES Tree fern, Ponga fern, Silver fern

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Fronds, Stem

The pith is eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A large tree fern. It has an erect trunk. It can be 10 m tall. Occasionally it has a creeping form. The fronds are about 4 m long. Underneath the fronds is white. The fronds are divided 3 times. The stalk is pale brown with a silver blush. It can be glossy and twisted. The bases of the stalks remain sticking out from the trunk.

HABITAT

It does best in a sheltered position. It is damaged by hot sunlight. It grows naturally in dry open forest. It grows well in well-drained humus. It can stand some frost. It suits hardiness zones 9-11. Geelong Botanical Gardens.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown by spores.

NOTES

It is New Zealand's National emblem. There are about 800 Cyathea species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/914b5a8d-0ce0-4d3e-b40d-882fd22e42cf