PLANT FACT SHEET

Syzygium australe (Wendl. ex Link) B. Hyland

GENUS *Syzygium* **FAMILY** Myrtaceae

COMMON NAMES Creek satinash, Brush cherry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds

The fruit are eaten raw. It can be cooked.
They can be used for jelly, syrups, preserves, or baked in pies and tarts.
They are also used for drinks.
The seeds can be roasted and eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A tree up to 10 m tall and a spread of 5 m. In warm rainforest areas it can grow to 30 m tall. It has a dense crown of leaves. The stem is erect and stout with spreading branches. The leaves are rounded and 9 cm long by 3 cm wide. They are shiny green on the upper surface and paler underneath. New growth is bronze/red. The flowers are small, fluffy and white or cream. They are produced in small clusters in the angles of the upper leaves. The fruit can be rounded or oval. They are pink to dark red in colour and 2 cm across. The fruit are edible. They contain 1 seed.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in coastal regions and rainforest areas in north and eastern Australia. They will grow on a variety of soils. They need to be well drained. It does best if soils are humus rich. They can be grown in temperate regions and can withstand moderate frost. It is damaged by drought. It can grow in slight shade or full sun. In the Cairns Botanical Gardens. Adelaide Botanical Gardens. It suits hardiness zones 9-12. Arboretum Tasmania.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

They are grown from seed. Seed are sown in autumn. Seed often germinate slowly and irregularly. Plants can also be grown from cuttings. Often a large number of the fruit are seedless.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In the southern hemisphere flowering is January to March and fruit are ripe from December to April. Plants produce in 3 years.

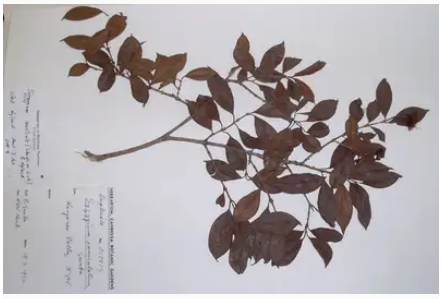
PICTURES



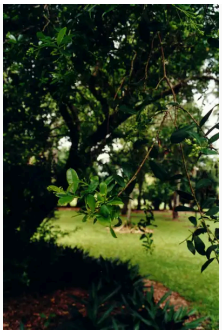
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