PLANT FACT SHEET

Liquidambar formosana Hance

GENUS *Liquidambar* **FAMILY** Altingiaceae

COMMON NAMES Chinese liquidamber, Formosan sweetgum

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves

The leaves are used as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

A deciduous tree. It grows 18 m high and spreads 9 m wide. It can grow 40 m tall. The trunk is straight. The tree is broadly cone shaped. The bark is grey-white and becomes darker and cracked with age. The leaves usually have 3 lobes. The leaves are 13 cm long by 15 cm wide. The lobes taper to a point and have rounded teeth. The leaves are purple when young and become dark green before turning red to purple in autumn. The leaf stalks have a red tinge. The fruit are small and in clusters are 2.5-4 cm across.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It is native to China and Taiwan. It grows in woods and thickets in mountainous areas. It suits hardiness zones 7-10. Mt Cootha Botanical Gardens. Arboretum Tasmania. In Sichuan.

NOTES

There are 4 Liquidambar species. It is used in medicine.
Also put in the family Hamamelidaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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