PLANT FACT SHEET

Alectryon excelsus Gaertn.

GENUS *Alectryon* **FAMILY** Sapindaceae

COMMON NAMES Titoki, New Zealand Ash

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit is sweet but acid and has a rough taste.

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It grows 6-12 m tall. The bark is almost black. The leaves are dark green. Underneath they are covered with rusty coloured hairs. The leaves are 5-10 cm long. The flowers are small. The fruit is a brown capsule. It opens to show red flesh and shiny black seeds.

HABITAT

A temperate plant. In New Zealand it grows in lowland forests up to 600 m altitude. It is resistant to fort but damaged by drought. It suits hardiness zone 8-9. Hobart Botanical Gardens.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. Seeds germinate easily.

NOTES

There are 15-34 Electryon species. The Maori formerly extracted an oil from the seeds.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/b34050b2-9b47-41bf-9be5-4ce5838f4f99