PLANT FACT SHEET

Lithocarpus edulis (Makino) Nakai

GENUS *Lithocarpus* **FAMILY** Fagaceae

COMMON NAMES Japanese false oak

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Nuts

The nuts are eaten.

DESCRIPTION

An evergreen tree. It grows 15 m tall. The bark is grey-brown and smooth. The leaves are narrowly oval and 15 cm long by 5 cm wide. They gradually taper from the centre of the leaf to the base. They have a short blunt point at the tip. They do not have teeth. They are rigid and leathery. They are glossy pale green above and grey-green underneath. The male and female flowers are both very small. They are creamy white in upright catkins. The male flowers are at the tip and the female flowers at the base. The fruit is a pointed acorn. It is 2.5 cm long. It is about one third enclosed in a cup. They occur in clusters without stalks and take 2 years to ripen.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It is native to Japan. It suits hardiness zones 7-9. Melbourne Botanical Gardens. Hobart Botanical Gardens.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It is fast growing.

NOTES

There are about 300 Lithocarpus species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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REFERENCES

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PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/b4078678-e8f4-40b2-977c-fe069672d41f