PLANT FACT SHEET

Malus sieversii (Ledeb.) M. Roem.

GENUS *Malus* **FAMILY** Rosaceae

COMMON NAMES Sievers apple

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The unripe fruit are eaten raw as a snack. They are also used for jam and wine.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 12-14 m high. The trunks are 70-80 cm across. The crown is 10-12 m across. In drier places trees are smaller. Current shoots are green-brown and densely hairy. The buds are small and red. The leaves are alternate and oblong. They are 6-11 cm long by 3-5 cm wide. They are leathery and dark green. Underneath they are hairy. There are teeth around the edge. The leaf stalks are shorter than the leaf blade. The flowers are in groups or 3-7. These are 5-11 cm across. The flowers are 4-6 cm across. There are 5 pale pink petals. The size and shape of the fruit varies. The date of fruit ripening also varies. The fruit flesh is white or yellow but the skin can be green, yellow, pink or red. The fruit varies in sweetness and bitterness. The seeds are small and brown. There can be 1-15 seeds.
Probably an ancestor of Malus domestica.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows on alluvial soils near mountain rivers at 800-1500 m above sea level. In Tajikistan it grows between 1,250-2.000 m above sea level. It is drought tolerant and winter hardy.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

Trees are long lived. They can live 150-170 years. Fruit are 20-60 g but can be 120 g.

NOTES

There are about 35 Malus species and very many cultivated varieties.
It is probably one of the original parents of our domesticated apple.
It is an at risk species.

REFERENCES

Arora, R. K., 2014, Diversity in Underutilized Plant Species - An Asia-Pacific Perspective. Bioversity International. p 76

Boboev, M. T., Conservation and restoration of unique local wild relatives of plants together with communities living in the Kulob zone of Khatlon region. University of Central Asia.

Dzhangaliev, A. D., et al, 2003, The Wild Fruit and Nut Plants of Kazakhstan, Horticultural Reviews, Vol. 29. pp 305-371

Fam. nat. syn. monogr. 3:216. 1847

Flora of China @ efloras.org Volume 9

INFOODSUpdatedFGU-list.xls

Eastwood, A., et al, 2009. The Red List of Trees of Central Asia. Fauna & Flora International. p 12

Jalali, M., et al, 2024, Ethnobotanical study of wild edible plants in the mountainous regions of Semnan Province, Iran. Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine 20:93 (f. niedzwetzkyana)

Plants for a Future database, The Field, Penpol, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, PL22 0NG, UK. http://www.scs.leeds.ac.uk/pfaf/

Ryabushkina, N., et al, 2008, Brief Review of Kazakhstan Flora and Use of its Wild Species. The Asian and Australasian Journal of Plant Science and Biotechnology

Sitpayeva, G. T., et al, 2020, Crop wild relatives of Kazakhstani Tien Shan: Flora, vegetation, resources. Plant Diversity 42 (2020) 19-32

Soukand, R., et al, 2021, The trauma of no-choice: Wild food ethnobotany in Yaghnobi and Tajik villages, Varzob Valley, Tajikistan. Genetic Resources and Crop Evolution · December 2021

Volk, G. M. et al, 2009, Novel Diversity Identified in a Wild Apple Population from the Kyrgyz Republic. HortScience 44(2):516-518

Wiersema, J. H. & Leon, B., 2013, World Economic Plants. A Standard Reference CRC Press. 2nd Ed. p 429

Zeven, A. C. & de West, J. M. J., 1982, Dictionary of cultivated plants and their regions of diversity. Wageningen. p 85, 100 (As Malus turkmenorum)

Zhou, L., et al, 2006, Chinese Edible Botanicals: Types, Efficacy and Safety. Handbook of Food Science, Technology, and Engineering, Volume 2 p 98-4

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/b4a95247-4cf7-4fb3-8cf7-e3e09bd05ea3