PLANT FACT SHEET

Mesembryanthemum cordifolium L. f.

GENUS *Mesembryanthemum* **FAMILY** Aizoaceae

COMMON NAMES Heart-leaved Noon-flower, Heart-leaved Iceplant

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Flowers

DESCRIPTION

A succulent creeper. It grows 5 cm high and spreads 40-100 cm wide. The leaves are fleshy and heart shaped. They are 1-2 cm long. The leaves are covered with felty hairs. The flowers are 2 cm across. The are deep red to scarlet. They are yellow or white in the centre. The flowers only open when the sun shines.

HABITAT

It is a warm temperate to subtropical plant. It is native to Southern Africa. It suits hardiness zones 9-11. It needs moisture in hot weather and can withstand dry in cool weather. It suits a gritty, well drained soil. It needs full sun. It grows on sand and in disturbed coastal heath. Melbourne Botanical Gardens.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It is grown by short tip cuttings. These root easily.

NOTES

There are only 2 Aptenia species. They occur in South Africa. Also in family Mesembryanthaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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