PLANT FACT SHEET

Carissa lanceolata R. Br.

GENUS *Carissa* **FAMILY** Apocynaceae

COMMON NAMES Konkleberry, Aperlap, Conkerberry, Currant bush, Kunkerberry, Perlap

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The ripe fruit are eaten raw. They are also used for jams and deserts.

DESCRIPTION

A small shrub. It grows 1-2 m high. It spreads 1 m wide. The leaves are opposite and sword shaped. There are a pair of spines at the base of each leaf. Leaves are 2-4 cm long by 1 cm wide. They are bright green. The flowers are white and have a sweet smell. They are about 0.6 cm across. They occur in small clusters at the ends of branches. The fruit are berries which are oval and black. They are about 0.6 cm long. The fruit are edible.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in dry inland districts in tropical regions of Australia. It grows from sea level to 900 m altitude. It can tolerate arid conditions and grow in stony soils. It can tolerate fire and drought. It can grow in arid places. It suits hardiness zones 11-12.

PRODUCTION

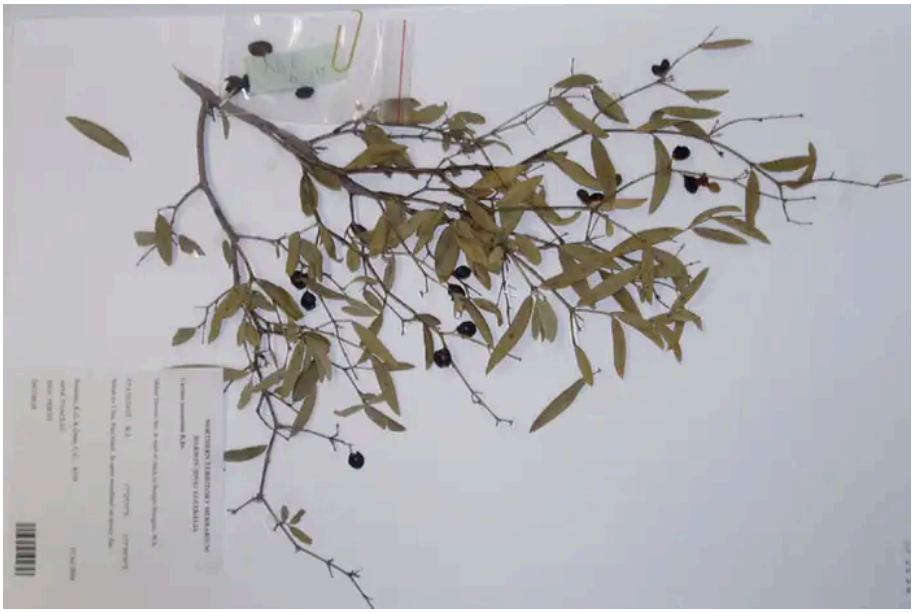
Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed or cuttings.

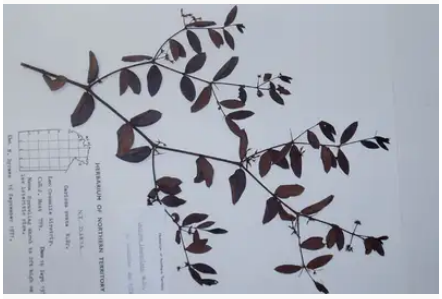
NOTES

There about 20-37 Carissa species. All Carissa species bear edible fruit. They grow in the tropics and subtropics.

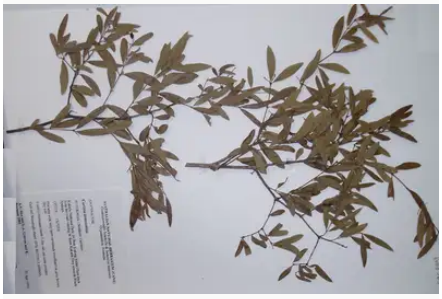
PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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