PLANT FACT SHEET

Prunus maritima Marshall

GENUS *Prunus* **FAMILY** Rosaceae

COMMON NAMES Beach plum, Sand plum, Shore plum

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds

The fruit are eaten raw. They are used for jelly, jams, pies, sauces, soups, cakes, and puddings. They are also dried.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub. It has a low growth habit. It grows 1.8 m high and spreads 2 m wide. The bark is dark. It loses its leaves during the year. The leaves are glossy. They are dark green but paler underneath. The flowers form a showy display. They are white and in pairs or small clusters. The fruit are 1.5 cm across. They are purple, red or yellow. They are plum-like and edible. Some kinds are very sour.

HABITAT

It occurs naturally on the sand dunes of the Atlantic Coast of USA. It occurs naturally in soils with low nutrients and low water holding capacity. They are subject to drought, high winds and salt content. Temperate. It suits hardiness zones 3-9.

NOTES

There are about 200 Prunus species.

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