PLANT FACT SHEET

Cornus capitata Wall. in Roxb.

GENUS *Cornus* **FAMILY** Cornaceae

COMMON NAMES Evergreen dogwood, Mountain lychee

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The ripe fruit is edible and sweet tasting. It is eaten raw.
They are also brewed into alcohol. Caution: Alcohol is a cause of cancer.
They are also made into preserves.

DESCRIPTION

An evergreen tree or shrub. It can lose its leaves. It grows 3-15 m high. The bark is greyish brown. The leaves are opposite. They are 4-9 cm long by 1.2-3 cm wide. They are oval and leathery. They are pale underneath. The flowers are yellowish. Flowers are closely packed in heads. These are 1-1.5 cm across. The fruit join into a fleshy, strawberry-like head. These are 2.5-5 cm across. They are juicy but tasteless.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows in evergreen and mixed forests between 1000-3200 m altitude in China. In Nepal is grows between 1700-2600 m altitude. In the Indian Himalayas it grows between 1,500-2,200 m above sea level. It is mostly on moist hillsides. It will grow on most soils and in most positions. It is resistant to frost but sensitive to drought. Hobart Botanical Gardens. It suits hardiness zones 8-9. Arboretum Tasmania.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Yunnan fruit are available from August to September.

NOTES

There are about 45 Cornus species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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

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