PLANT FACT SHEET

Baeckea gunniana Schauer

GENUS *Baeckea* **FAMILY** Myrtaceae

COMMON NAMES Alpine Baeckia, Mountain heath myrtle

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves - tea

DESCRIPTION

A shrub. It often lies along the ground. It can grow 2 m high and spread 50 cm wide. The leaves are narrow and crowded. They are dotted with oil glands and have an aromatic scent when crushed. The leaves are 2-6 mm long and thick. They are dark green. The flowers are small and white. They are 4 mm across. They have 5 petals. Flowers occur near the ends of branches. The fruit is a capsule.

HABITAT

A temperate plant. It occurs in mountain plateaux above 800 m altitude. It does best in light shade. It needs regular watering. It is frost resistant but damaged by drought. It suits hardiness zones 7-8. Arboretum Tasmania.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed or cuttings.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Flowering occurs in January to February.

NOTES

There are 70 Baeckea species. Most are in Australia.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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