PLANT FACT SHEET

Lumnitzera littorea (Jack.) Voight

GENUS *Lumnitzera* **FAMILY** Combretaceae

COMMON NAMES Red flowered Black Mangrove

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: flower - nectar

The flowers can be sucked for nectar.

DESCRIPTION

A small tree 3-5 m high. It spreads to 9 m wide. It can be larger. It has slender knee shaped roots allowing air. The bark is rough and dark grey. It has cracks along its length. The leaves are arranged in spirals. They are crowded towards the ends of branches. The leaves are smooth, slightly fleshy and leathery. They are spoon shaped and taper towards the base. The leaves are 2-8 cm long by 1.2-2.5 cm wide. The flowers are red tubes with a strong scent. They are 1.5-2 cm long. Many flowers occur together in flower clusters near the ends of branches. These flower clusters are 2-5 cm long. The fruit are hard and smooth. They are 1 cm long by 0.5 cm wide. They are corky and have a single seed.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows on the landward side of the mangroves. It occurs in soft mud where the tide only occasionally reaches.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed.

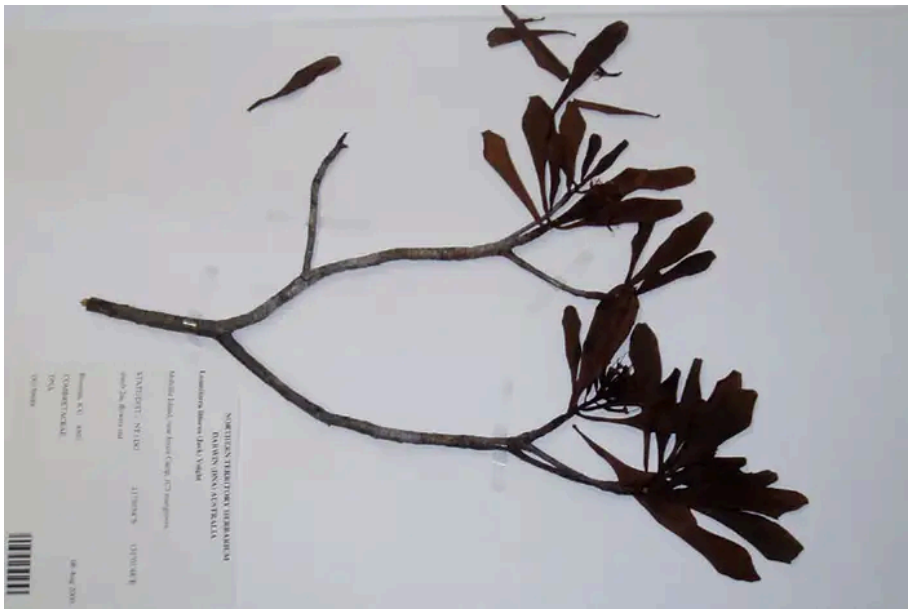
Harvesting and Seed Production

In Australia, plants flower June to February and fruit July to November.

NOTES

There are 2 Lumnitzera species.

PICTURES



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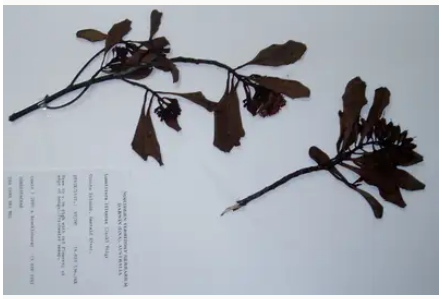

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