PLANT FACT SHEET

Actinidia rubricaulis var. coriacea (Finet & Gagnep.) C.F.Liang

GENUS *Actinidia* **FAMILY** Actinidiaceae

COMMON NAMES Leather-leaved actinidia

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit is eaten raw or cooked.

DESCRIPTION

A climber. It loses its leaves during the year. It grows to 8 m long. The leaves are oval and 4-13 cm long by 2-4 cm wide. Male and female flowers occur on separate plants. The fruit is 2 cm long and contains many small seeds.

HABITAT

It grows naturally in thickets between 200 - 1000 metres altitude from Kweichow and Szechuan to N.W. Yunnan Provinces in China. It has some frost resistance.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown from seed or cuttings. Male and female plants must be grown if seed is required. Plants can be grown from seed. Fresh seed germinates in 2 - 3 months at 10°C and stored seed can take longer. Seedlings should be transplanted out when 30 cm tall and after the last frosts. (Most seedlings are male.) Plants can be grown from cuttings.

NOTES

There are 40-60 Actinidia species. The Actinidiaceae are a mainly tropical family.

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