PLANT FACT SHEET

Cornus nuttallii Audubon

GENUS *Cornus* **FAMILY** Cornaceae

COMMON NAMES Mountain dogwood, Pacific dogwood, West American dogwood, Western Flowering Dogwood

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are eaten alone or mashed with sweeter fruit.
Caution: The fruit should probably not be eaten in large quantities.

DESCRIPTION

A slender tree. It grows up to 9-15 m high. The trunk can be 30 cm across. In gardens it is often only a shrub. The bark is light grey and thin. It breaks into small plates with age. The leaves are clustered at the shoot tips. The leaves are opposite and 8-15 cm long. They are widest near the middle and taper to both ends. The tip is short and sharp. The base is broad and wedge shaped. The edges are wavy. The leaves are deep green on top and greyish-green underneath. The leaves turn yellow and red in autumn. The flowers are small and dull purple or green. They occur in compact flower heads which are 10-12 cm across with 4-7 pure white bracts. The small cluster of flowers at their centre is purple. The fruit are bright red and 10-12 mm across. The occur in dense packed round clusters. There are 30-40 in the group. They ripen in autumn.

HABITAT

It is native to western North America. Temperate. It suits cool, rainy climates in partly shady places. It is often along riverbanks and near the bottom of valleys. It is resistant to frost but damaged by drought. It suits hardiness zones 7-8. Arboretum Tasmania.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown by seeds or cuttings.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It is a short lived tree.

NOTES

There are about 45 Cornus species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/d2af26ab-b429-4e26-8386-91755878779e