PLANT FACT SHEET

Rubus rosifolius Smith

GENUS *Rubus* **FAMILY** Rosaceae

COMMON NAMES Rose-leaf bramble

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Leaves

The fruit are eaten raw. They can also be stewed with sugar or made into jam.
The young leaves are also eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A spiny evergreen creeping shrub. It grows to 3 m high and spreads to 3 m across. The stem is trailing and forms suckers. The leaves have 3 to 7 leaflets on opposite sides of the stalk. These are either smooth or hairy with lobed edges. The leaflets are 1-9 cm long. The flowers are white and 3 cm across. The fruit are red and about 1.5 to 2 cm across. They occur on their own or in clusters. They are juicy and tasteless. They have several seeds inside which are very tiny.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It can grow in the lowlands and highlands. Plants are resistant to drought and frost. They are common in forests of Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao in the Philippines at low and medium altitudes. They are common in the highlands. In Papua New Guinea, Rubus rosifolius grows from 750-2800 m altitude. It suits hardiness zones 9-11.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. They both grow wild. The fruit are crushed in water and the seeds float free. These are left overnight when the seeds sink and the flesh floats. Seeds can take 3 months to germinate. They could be grown by division of the root or from cuttings. Cuttings grown easily.

NOTES

There are about 250 Rubus species.

PICTURES



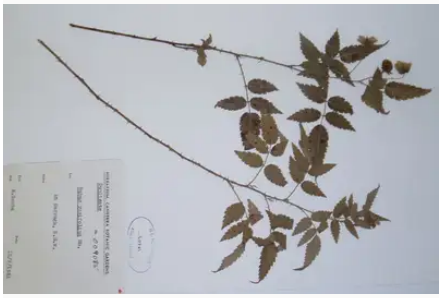
Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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