PLANT FACT SHEET

Baeckea frutescens L.

GENUS *Baeckea* **FAMILY** Myrtaceae

COMMON NAMES Childbirth Tea

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves - tea, Flowers - tea

A tea is made from the leaves and flowers.

DESCRIPTION

A slender shrub. It grows 1-4 m tall and spreads 1-2.5 m wide. The branches are thin. The tips hang down. The leaves are 1-2 cm long by 0.1-0.3 cm wide. They are pressed against the stem when young but become spreading. The flowers are 0.3-0.5 cm across. They are white and occur singly in the axils of the upper leaves. There are 8 stamens with 2 shorter than the others.

HABITAT

It is a tropical and subtropical plant. It grows in open heathland. It grows in colonies along the edges of casual streams. It can also be on mountain tops. It needs a sunny position and a well drained soil.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed or cuttings.

NOTES

There are 70 Baeckea species. Most are in Australia. The wood is used for firewood.

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/dd2efa54-19ef-4b34-858e-4a3a9d5df75d