PLANT FACT SHEET

Prunus mume (Siebold) Siebold & Zucc.

GENUS *Prunus* **FAMILY** Rosaceae

COMMON NAMES Ume, Japanese apricot, Japanese plum

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Flowers, Fruit, Seeds

The fruit are eaten fresh. The fruit are used as a source of sour flavouring.
They are preserved and used in plum sauce. They can be pickled in salt. The fruit can be used for vinegar.
The flowers are used for scenting tea.

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It loses its leaves during the year. It grows up to 6 m tall. It spreads 8 m wide. The leaves are 10 cm long. The flowers occur singly. They are 25 mm wide. They are pink or red. They have an almond scent. The fruit has one hard stone inside. The fruit are yellow and velvety. They are sour and edible.

HABITAT

Temperate. It is frost hardy. It suits hardiness zones 6-10. In Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown by seed, cuttings or by grafting.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Yunnan the fruit are harvested in August.

NOTES

There are about 200 Prunus species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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