



PLANT FACT SHEET

Cornus sericea L.

GENUS *Cornus* FAMILY Cornaceae

COMMON NAMES Red osier dogwood

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds

The berries are bitter but eaten. They are eaten fresh. They can be mashed with sweeter berries. The seeds are extracted and eaten. They can be stored.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub which develops suckers. It loses its leaves. It grows 4 m tall and spreads 2 m wide. The branches are dark purple. The small branches are silky. The leaves are oval to sword shaped. They are smooth above and silky underneath. They turn orange to red in autumn. The flowers are white. The fruit are white with a green tinge.

HABITAT

Temperate. It is best in light to medium, moist soils. It needs a protected shaded position. It is resistant to frost but damaged by drought. It suits hardiness zones 2-9.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown by seed or by layering.

NOTES

There are about 45 *Cornus* species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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ONLINE FACT SHEET <https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/f678c2f3-3e00-444f-b341-c5c09a13a0bc>