



www.LA3.com.au

SPECIES

Austromyrtus dulcis

COMMON NAME

Midgen Berry, Midyim

ORIGIN

The species occurs in New South Wales and Queensland.

DESIGN USE

The berries are a popular traditional bushfood, eaten by indigenous Australians and non-indigenous people.



HEIGHT

Up to 2m

SPREAD

1.4m

HABIT

Spreading heathland shrub

FORM

Midgen berry leaves are 1-3 cm long and 0.5 cm wide, lanceolate to elliptical, glossy above and silky hairy beneath.

FLOWERS

The white flowers are 1 cm across, followed by dotted mauve edible berries.



FLOWERING PERIOD

In its natural habitat *A. dulcis* flowers in spring and summer while in Canberra the flowering time is summer to mid-autumn.

FRUIT

Dotted mauve edible berries. The melt-in-the-mouth berries are sweet and aromatic, with a pleasant gingery flavour. While recognized as having good flavour qualities, the berries have not been commercialized due to harvesting and handling issues.

CLIMATIC TOLERANCES

Midgen is also popular in amenity horticulture as an adaptable shrub for a variety of situations, handling a range of soils and climatic conditions.

HORTICULTURE

Austromyrtus dulcis is a relatively easy species to propagate. Fresh cleaned seed germinates in 3-4 weeks while uncleaned fruits take about a week longer. Although the testa (the outer coat) of the seed is hard no mechanical scarification is necessary. Propagation from cuttings is also easy.

REFERENCES

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Austromyrtus_dulcis

<http://www.anbg.gov.au/gnp/gnp12/austromyrtus-dulcis.html>

