



Midgen Berry

Austromyrtus dulcis



Family: Myrtaceae

Spreading shrub to 2 m



Distribution: From Valla, New South Wales, to Fraser Island, Queensland

Description: The leaves are glossy dark green with a pale underside. The young growing shoots are coppery coloured. Small white flowers are followed by the berries which are white and covered in small blue black spots, giving the fruit a mauve appearance. The fruit are edible and have a sweet taste.

Propagation: Fresh cleaned seed germinates in 3-4 weeks. Cuttings also strike well.

Habitat: Found in woodlands, heath, forests or rainforest fringes. In full sun it forms a dense spreading shrub up to 40 cm high by 1.4 m in diameter. Likes good water, may be frost tender, relatively free from pests and diseases.

Uses: Grows well in exposed coastal areas. The berries are a popular traditional bush food. Because of the fruit, small birds are likely to be free to forage safely in its dense, intertwining form.