PLANT FACT SHEET

Myrciaria floribunda (West ex Willd.) O. Berg

GENUS *Myrciaria* **FAMILY** Myrtaceae

COMMON NAMES Guava berry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit is eaten fresh or used for flavouring. It is used for jam or juice.
The fruit are used to make a liqueur.

DESCRIPTION

A small evergreen tree. It grows 15 m high. The bark is pale and smooth. The leaves are simple and deep green. They are 9 cm long. They are sword shaped and with a long point. The flowers are white and showy. They are almost without stalks. There are 4 fringed petals and a clump of golden stamens. The fruit are small and yellow with a sweet aromatic pulp. They can be red. They are 10 mm across. They have one or two seeds.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It suits the warm tropical lowlands. It is native to tropical America. It grows in dry or humid coastal woodland. It grows up to 300 m altitude. It can tolerate drought. It has some salt tolerance. It needs full sun. It does best is a rich loam.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. The seeds are collected from ripe fruit that are allowed to decompose for a few days before the seeds are washed out under running water. Seeds need to be planted while fresh. They should be in light shade. The seedlings emerge in 40-50 days.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It is very slow growing. It takes 6-8 years to bear fruit from seed. Fruit matures in 60 days.

REFERENCES

Barwick, M., 2004, Tropical and Subtropical Trees. A Worldwide Encyclopedic Guide. Thames and Hudson p 288

Brack, P., et al, 2020, Frutas nativas do Rio Grande do Sul, Brasil: riqueza e potencial alimentício.
Native fruits of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil: richness and potential as food. Rodriguésia 71: e03102018.

Ekman Herbarium records Haiti (As Eugenia floribunda)

Facciola, S., 1998, Cornucopia 2: a Source Book of Edible Plants. Kampong Publications, p 158

Grandtner, M. M. & Chevrette, J., 2013, Dictionary of Trees, Volume 2: South America: Nomenclature, Taxonomy and Ecology. Academic Press p 436

Hedrick, U.P., 1919, (Ed.), Sturtevant's edible plants of the world. p 297 (As Eugenia floribunda)

Hermandez Bermejo, J.E., and Leon, J. (Eds.), 1994, Neglected Crops. 1492 from a different perspective. FAO Plant Production and Protection Series No 26. FAO, Rome. p16 (As Eugenia floribunda)

Hunter, D., et al, 2019, The potential of neglected and underutilized species for improving diets and nutrition. Planta (2019) 250:709-729

Kermath, B. M., et al, 2014, Food Plants in the Americas: A survey of the domesticated, cultivated and wild plants used for Human food in North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. On line draft. p 561

Linnaea 27:330. 1856

Lorenzi, H., 2009, Brazilian Trees. A Guide to the Identification and Cultivation of Brazilian Native Trees. Instituto Plantarum de Estuados da Flora Ltda. Vol. 3 p 265

Lyle, S., 2006, Discovering fruit and nuts. Land Links. p 296

Martin, F. W., et al, 1987, Perennial Edible Fruits of the Tropics. USDA Handbook 642 p 41

McLaughlin, J., Woody and Herbaceus Plants Native to Haiti. University of Florida. p 14

Miguel, E., et al, 1989, A checklist of the cultivated plants of Cuba. Kulturpflanze 37. 1989, 211-357

Morton, Julia F., 1987, Fruits of Warm Climates. Creative Resources Systems, Inc. . p. 388

Piedra-Malagón, E. M., et al, 2022, Edible native plants of the Gulf of Mexico Province. Biodiversity Data Journal 10: e80565 p 26

Plants of Haiti Smithsonian Institute http://botany.si.edu/antilles/West Indies

Roa, J. A. G. & Boada, D. S. G., 2018, Fundación para el Fortalecimiento de la Fruticultura y Plantas Alimenticias no Convencionales en Colombia.

Segura, S., et al, 2018, The edible fruit species in Mexico. Genet Resour Crop Evol (2018) 65:1767–1793

Sp. pl. 2(2):960. 1799 (As Eugenia floribunda)

Torre, de la, L., et al, 2008, Enciclopedia de las Plantas Útiles del Ecuador. Herbario QCA. Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador. p 468

Uphof,

van Roosmalen, M.G.M., 1985, Fruits of the Guianan Flora. Utrecht Univ. & Wageningen Univ. p 330

Vasquez, R. and Gentry, A. H., 1989, Use and Misuse of Forest-harvested Fruits in the Iquitos Area. Conservation Biology 3(4): 350f

www.colecionandofrutas.org

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/055873ea-618e-4ec5-bafe-0bfd0d966047