PLANT FACT SHEET

Callicarpa arborea Roxb.

GENUS *Callicarpa* **FAMILY** Lamiaceae

COMMON NAMES Beauty berry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Bark, Leaves, Flowers

The ripe fruit are eaten fresh.
The bark is used as a substitute for betel nut by older people. It is also eaten along with Rubus paniculatus.
The leaves are used to ferment soybean.
The flowers are fried with meat. They are eaten with chilli, salt and ginger.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows about 20 m tall. The bark is dark brown, rough and thinly corky. The leaves are opposite and 9-30 cm long by 4-14 cm wide. They are sword shaped and with soft hairs on both surfaces when young. The flowers are light purple. They have a smell. The fruit is fleshy with a stone inside. The fruit is purplish black when ripe.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. It grows in Nepal up to 1500 m altitude. In southern China it grows in mixed forests on mountain slopes between 1,000-2,500 m above sea level. In Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Sikkim fruit are available in November.

NOTES

There are about 140-150 Callicarpa species.
Previously in the Verbenaceae family.

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