PLANT FACT SHEET

Lantana trifolia L.

GENUS *Lantana* **FAMILY** Verbenaceae

COMMON NAMES Tick berry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Leaves - flavouring

The fruit are eaten as a famine food.
They are also used for wine.
The leaves are used to flavour milk and butter.

DESCRIPTION

A scrambling shrub. It grows 3 m high. The stems are thin and have hairs. The leaves are in threes. They are oval and taper to the tip. The base is rounded and there are teeth along the edge. They are like sandpaper above. The flowers are usually pink or lilac. They are in spikes on long stalks. They form round heads. The fruit are red or purple berries.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in tropical America. It grows in open bushland, and dry forest. In East Africa it grows from sea level to 1900 m altitude. In Kenya it grows on fertile sandy and light clay soils between 900-2,500 m altitude. In Argentina it grows from sea level to 1,000 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds or by cuttings. It can be used as a hedge plant.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Fruit are collected late in the rainy season.

NOTES

There are about 150 Lantana species. They come from tropical and subtropical America.

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