PLANT FACT SHEET

Azima tetracantha Lam.

GENUS *Azima* **FAMILY** Salvadoraceae

COMMON NAMES Bee-sting bush, Fore thorn, Four-thorns

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The ripe fruit are eaten as a snack food.

DESCRIPTION

A spiny evergreen shrub. It has many tangled branches. It grows 0.6 to 8 m tall. There are 4 spines at each pair of leaves. The spines are 3.5 cm long and sharp and straight. The leaves are yellow-green. The leaf blade is oblong and 1.4 cm wide by 6 cm long. The veins show up clearly. The flowers are small and green. They are produced in the axils of leaves in loose clusters. The fruit are small berries 6-8 mm across. They are green and turn white or yellow when ripe. The seeds are black and shaped like a disk.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It is commonly found on poor eroded soils. It can grow on salt affected soils. It grows from sea level to 1120 m altitude. It can grow in arid places.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants grow from seed.

Harvesting and Seed Production

The tree flowers and fruits throughout the year.

NOTES

There are 4 Azima species.

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