PLANT FACT SHEET

Maesa chisia Buch-Ham. ex D.Don.

GENUS *Maesa* **FAMILY** Primulaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Fruit

The ripe fruit are eaten.
The young shoots and leaves are cooked and eaten as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub. It is 1-2 m tall. Sometimes it grows to 6 m. The branches are angular and brown and scaly. The pith is solid. The leaf stalk is 0.7-1.5 cm long. The leaf blade is oblong and 8.5-14 cm long by 2.5-5.5 cm wide. It is papery. The base is wedge shaped and there are teeth along the edge. The veins are raised underneath the leaf. There are about 10 side veins each side of the main vein. The flowering stalks occur in the axils of leaves on second year branches. They are 1.5-4 cm long. The fruit is round and 3-4 mm across. They are somewhat fleshy.

HABITAT

A subtropical plant. They grow in sparse forests and shrubby areas on warm sunny hillsides between 600-2200 m altitude in S China. In Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Sikkim fruit are available April to August.

NOTES

There are about 200 Maesa species. They are mostly tropical. They are also put in the family Maesaceae. They are also put in the family Myrsinaceae.

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