PLANT FACT SHEET

Tristemma mauritianum J. F. Gmel.

GENUS *Tristemma* **FAMILY** Melastomataceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds, Leaves

The ripe fruit are eaten raw.
The seeds are also eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A herb or small shrub. It grows 2 m tall. The stems are thick and square. They are covered with bristles. The leaf stalks are 1-4 cm long. The leaves are opposite and 5-15 cm long by 3-7 cm wide. They are hairy. The flower petals are 6-10 mm long. They are white. The fruit are 10 mm long by 6 mm wide. Fruit contain soft white sections. The seeds are in a white pulp. The seeds are small and 0.6 mm long.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in damp places. In Queensland Australia it grows from sea level to 550 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

Fruiting occurs throughout the year. The young leaves and fruit are plucked off the plant.

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