PLANT FACT SHEET

Microcos tomentosa Sm.

GENUS *Microcos* **FAMILY** Malvaceae

COMMON NAMES Lao tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The ripe fruit is eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or small tree. It grows 4-15 m tall. The leaves are alternate and simple. They have teeth along the edge. The leaves and flowers have soft hairs. The flowers can be in the axils of leaves or at the ends of branches. The fruit can be 2.5 cm across. They are pale orange with velvety hairs.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in evergreen forests at low altitudes.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In NE Thailand fruit are available August to November.

NOTES

They have also been put in the families Tiliaceae and Sparrmanniaceae.

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PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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