PLANT FACT SHEET

Cordia obliqua Willd.

GENUS *Cordia* **FAMILY** Boraginaceae

COMMON NAMES Large sebesten

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Fruit

The young fruit are pickled and eaten as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

A medium sized tree. It grows 10.5 m tall. The trunk can be 70 cm across. It loses its leaves during the year. The leaves are alternate and oval. They are 10 cm long by 5.5 cm wide. Young leaves are hairy underneath. The flowers are small and white. They are 6 mm wide and smooth on short stalks. They are in clusters of up to 15 flowers. The fruit is fleshy and 1.75 cm across. They are light yellowish-green. The skin is thick and there is a hard stone with 2 seeds.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. In Puerto Rico it grows at low altitudes.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

A tree can produce 30 kg of fruit in a year. Fruit are harvested when fully ripe.

NOTES

There are about 300 Cordia species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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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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