PLANT FACT SHEET

Ardisia bifaria C White & Francis

GENUS *Ardisia* **FAMILY** Primulaceae

COMMON NAMES Miniature spearflower

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

DESCRIPTION

A shrub up to 1.5 m tall. It spreads 30-60 cm across. The leaves are simple and 1-8 cm long by 0.5-2 cm wide. They are narrowly sword shaped. The leaves are arranged in 2 rows. The flower clusters are short with 2-5 flowers. The flowers are 0.6 cm across. The fruit are 8 mm across. The occur singly in the axils of leaves. There is one seed inside. The flesh is edible. The fruit are red.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in rainforest in Queensland, Australia. It grows between 40-1075 m altitude in tropical Queensland. It does best in a shady position and needs a moist well drained soil. It suits the wet tropics.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed or cuttings.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It is easy to grow but slow growing.

NOTES

There are about 250-300 Ardisia species. They are mainly in the tropics. Also put in the family Myrsinaceae.

REFERENCES

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