PLANT FACT SHEET

Catesbaea spinosa Linn.

GENUS *Catesbaea* **FAMILY** Rubiaceae

COMMON NAMES Spanish guava, Lily-thorn

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are eaten fresh.
They are also used for juices and jam.

DESCRIPTION

A spiny evergreen shrub. It grows 3-4 m tall. The leaves are broadly oval and 5 cm long. They are dark green. They grow along the upper side of the arching branches. There are small spines in the axils of the leaves. The flowers are trumpet shaped. They hang down and are 15 cm long. The fruit is yellow. It has many small seeds.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It does well in a seasonally moist and dry climate. It can grow in an average, sandy, well-drained soil. It needs full or part sun. It does well in coastal locations. It suits hardiness zones 9-12.

NOTES

There are 16-20 Catesbaea species. They grow in the West Indies.

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Sp. pl. 1:109. 1753

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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

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