PLANT FACT SHEET

Garcinia kingaensis Engl.

GENUS *Garcinia* **FAMILY** Clusiaceae

COMMON NAMES Northern forest garcinia, Northern forest mangosteen

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are eaten. They are acid.

DESCRIPTION

A small to medium sized tree. It is 4-13 m high. The branches are often horizontal and slender. The bark is smooth and brown. The young branches are grooved and square in cross section. The leaves are narrowly oval. They are 6-16 cm long by 3-6 cm wide. They are leathery and bluish-grey. They are dull above and paler green underneath. The young leaves have fine parallel veins. The edges of the leaf are wavy. The leaf stalk is has a channel on above. The leaves give a yellow sap. The flowers are white to yellowish and 10 mm across. They occur singly or in groups of 2-7. They occur in short spurs on older branches. The fruit are almost round and 2.5 cm across. They are yellow-orange when mature. They are edible. There are 1-2 seeds. Seeds are 1 cm long.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows as an understorey tree in evergreen forest. In Malawi it grows between 700-2,200 m altitude. In Zimbabwe it rows between 1,350-2,100 m above sea level.

NOTES

There are about 300 Garcinia species.

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