PLANT FACT SHEET

Berchemia floribunda (Wall.) Brongn.

GENUS *Berchemia* **FAMILY** Rhamnaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Leaves, Root, Leaves - tea

The root is cooked with pig feet or egg.
The leaves are used as a vegetable.
The ripe fruit are edible but tasteless.

DESCRIPTION

A large twining shrub. A shrub that loses its leaves. It grows 4 m high and spreads 1.5 m across. The twigs are cylinder shape and tapering. The leaves are 5-12 cm long by 3-4 cm wide. They are narrowly oval. They are more pale underneath. The flowers are in tufts of 3-6. They are in large groups 12-15 cm long at the ends of branches. The fruit is fleshy and 8-20 mm long. The seed is covered in a hard coat and is flattened and smooth.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in mountain forests and the edges of forests below 2,600 m in China. In Sichuan and Yunnan. It is best in light sandy soils. It can be in swamps. It needs a protected sunny position. It is damaged by drought or frost.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown from tip cuttings.

NOTES

There are 12 Berchemia species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/2b957785-9682-4341-8676-27b7481f853a