PLANT FACT SHEET

Use with caution

This plant can be harmful if it is eaten raw, in large amounts or without the right preparation. Read the whole fact sheet before use.

Citharexylum spinosum L.

GENUS *Citharexylum* **FAMILY** Verbenaceae

COMMON NAMES Spiny fiddlewood tree, Lady Chancellor tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The ripe fruit are edible but not attractive.

DESCRIPTION

An evergreen tree. It grows 15 m high and spreads 5 m wide. The trunk is erect and sturdy. The leaves are narrowly oval and opposite. The leaves are oval and 7-16 cm long by 4-8 cm wide. There are coarse teeth around the edge. The flowers are small and white. They have a scent. They are in groups 30 cm long. The fruit are about 1 cm across.

HABITAT

It is a tropical and subtropical plant. It is best in humus-rich soils. It needs a protected sunny position. It is damaged by frost and drought. It grows from sea level to 1,000 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds or cuttings.

NOTES

It is used in medicine. It is also used to produce abortions.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/2ed10711-85b4-4349-a046-53b94a80e4a2