PLANT FACT SHEET

Maesa indica (Roxb.) Sweet

GENUS *Maesa* **FAMILY** Primulaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Fruit, Vegetable

The ripe fruit are eaten raw in the Himalayas.
The leaves are used in curries. They are also boiled with fish.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub. It grows 1-3 m tall. The young branches have hairs. They are angular. The leaf stalk is 1-1.8 cm long. The leaf blade is 8-17 cm long by 5-9 cm wide. It is papery. There are teeth along the edge. The flowers are in the axils of leaves or near the ends of branches. The flowers are white or light yellow. They are about 2 mm across. The fruit is round. The fruit are 2.5 mm across. It has ribs along it. They are somewhat juicy when ripe and have many seeds.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in evergreen broad-leaved forest on hillsides and stream banks in damp places between 500-2000 m altitude in S China. In Yunnan. It suits the wet tropics.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Northeastern India plants flower from December to March and fruit in January and February.

NOTES

There are about 200 Maesa species. They are mostly tropical. They are also put in the family Maesaceae. They are also put in the family Myrsinaceae.

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