PLANT FACT SHEET

Ficus aspera Forster f.

GENUS *Ficus* **FAMILY** Moraceae

COMMON NAMES Tongue fig, Clown fig, Mosaic fig

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Leaves

The fruit and young leaves are cooked and eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A sandpaper fig. It is a tree which loses its leaves for a short time. It grows 5-10 m high. The leaves are broadly oval and 38 cm long. The leaves have a rough, harsh surface. The edges of the leaves can have rounded teeth or lobes. One cultivated variety has a pattern of pale green and pink patches on the dark green leaf. (This is caused by a virus). This variety is small and crooked. The flowers are small. The fruit are round and 2.5-4 cm across. They are red with maroon stripes. They are downy. The fruit are produced on the trunks and large branches.

HABITAT

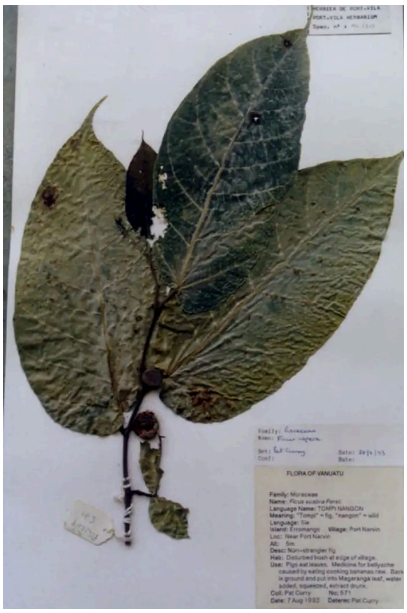
A tropical plant. It grows in the Pacific islands. It needs regular moisture. It needs and average, well-drained soil. It can grow in full or part sun. It suits hardiness zones 11-12.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It is grown by cuttings.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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