PLANT FACT SHEET

Gardenia latifolia Aiton

GENUS *Gardenia* **FAMILY** Rubiaceae

COMMON NAMES Boxwood Gardenia, Indian boxwood

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The young fruit are eaten. It is the fleshy pulp that is eaten. Ripe fruit are eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It loses its leaves during the year. It can start by growing on other trees. The bark is greenish-grey and peels off. The leaves are large. They are arranged oppositely or in rings. The leaves are 15-20 cm long by 8 cm wide. The flowers occur singly at the ends of the branches. The flowers have a narrow tube that widens into a flat arrangement of petals. They are white or pale yellow. The fruit is a round berry,

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in forests in southern India. It grows in dry forests.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds or by cuttings or grafting.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In southern India plants flowers April to July.

NOTES

There are about 200 Gardenia species.

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