PLANT FACT SHEET

Aceratium megalospermum (F. Muell.) Balgooy

GENUS *Aceratium* **FAMILY** Elaeocarpaceae

COMMON NAMES Creek aceratium, Bolly carabeen

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It grows 5-12 m tall and spreads 3-5 m across. It can have several stems. The leaves are 3-11 cm long by 1-2.5 cm across. They are long and fatter at the centre. They are smooth and shiny green on top and dull and slightly hairy underneath. They have a blunt tip. Flowers occur in stalked branches near the ends of branches. The flowers are 1-2 cm long with 5 narrow petals. They are cream to pink with red sepals. The fruit is fleshy with a woody shell around the seed. There is one seed. Fruit are 1-2 cm long, rounded and red. They can hang singly or in bunches. Flowers and fruit occur on the tree at the same time. The cut flesh of the fruit smells of peppered raspberries.

HABITAT

It occurs in north-eastern Queensland in Australia in the tropical rainforest. It occurs in lowland and highland rainforest. It grows between sea level and 820 m altitude. It needs a sheltered position and requires water during dry weather.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown from seed. It can be grown by cuttings or aerial layering.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Fruit are ripe May to October. (October to February)

NOTES

There are 20 Aceratium species.

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