PLANT FACT SHEET

Meyna tetraphylla (Schweinf. ex Hiern) Robyns

GENUS *Meyna* **FAMILY** Rubiaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are sweet and are eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A spiny shrub. It grows 2-4 m high. The branches curve upwards and the crown is narrow. It can be a creeper. The bark is grey-brown. There are pairs of spines where the leaves are attached. The leaves are yellow-green and slightly shiny. The flowers are in clusters in the axils of leaves. They are cream or green. The fruit is an almost round five angled berry. It is 2 cm across. There are 2 subspecies. Subspecies comorensis is more common and tetraphylla occurs in northern Kenya

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. In Kenya it grows from sea level to 1,100 m altitude. It grows in bushland and along watercourses in dry country. It grows on rocky and sandy soils.

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PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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