PLANT FACT SHEET

Use with caution

This plant can be harmful if it is eaten raw, in large amounts or without the right preparation. Read the whole fact sheet before use.

Trema tomentosum (Roxb.) H. Hara

GENUS *Trema* **FAMILY** Cannabaceae

COMMON NAMES Poison Peach

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Insect larvae

CAUTION: Parts of this plant can cause liver damage. Plants vary in their toxicity.
In Australia Aboriginal people cooked and ate the larvae of a wood boring insect that attacks this plant.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub with several stems. It grows 4 m high. The stems are covered with stiff hairs. The leaves are alternate. They vary in shape but are oval. They can be 2-13 cm long by 1-5 cm wide. The leaves are rough to touch. The leaves have teeth along the edge and a pointed tip. They are paler underneath. The flowers are green or white. They are on short stalks in the axils of leaves. The male and female flowers are separate on the same plant. The fruit are fleshy and round. They are 3 mm across. They occur in bunches are change from green to black as they mature.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in tropical and subtropical areas.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed or cuttings.

NOTES

Also put in the family Ulmaceae.

REFERENCES

Cowie, I, 2006, A Survey of Flora and vegetation of the proposed Jaco-Tutuala-Lore National Park. Timor-Lests (East Timor) www.territorystories.nt/gov.au p 55

Fl. E. Himalaya 2:19. 1971 "tomentosa" [As tomentosum] - may not be specifically distinct from T. orientalis (L.) Blume\; the genus is of neuter gender according to NCU-3

Flora of China @ efloras.org Volume 5

Hibbert, M., 2002, The Aussie Plant Finder 2002, Florilegium. p 301 (var. viridus)

Jackes, B.R., 2001, Plants of the Tropics. Rainforest to Heath. An Identification Guide. James Cook University. p 85

Jackes, B. R., 2010, Plants of Magnetic Island. 3rd Edition. James Cook University, Australia. p 126

Lazarides, M. & Hince, B., 1993, Handbook of Economic Plants of Australia, CSIRO. p 238

Melzer, R. & Plumb, J., 2011, Plants of Capricornia. Belgamba, Rockhampton. p 352

Milson, J., 2000, Trees and Shrubs of north-west Queensland. DPI p 298

Paczkowska, G . & Chapman, A.R., 2000, The Western Australian Flora. A Descriptive Calatogue. Western Australian Herbarium. p 565

Townsend, K., 1994, Across the Top. Gardening with Australian Plants in the tropics. Society for Growing Australian Plants, Townsville Branch Inc. p 359

Wheeler, J.R.(ed.), 1992, Flora of the Kimberley Region. CALM, Western Australian Herbarium, p 76

Williams, K.A.W., 1999, Native Plants of Queensland Volume 4. Keith A.W. Williams North Ipswich, Australia. p 372

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/36313aca-37df-4391-b264-5eb35266a73a