PLANT FACT SHEET

Craterispermum laurinum (Poir.) Benth.

GENUS *Craterispermum* **FAMILY** Rubiaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Bark

The bark is considered sweet and edible.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or small tree. It grows 7 m tall. The leaves are simple, entire and opposite. The leaf blade is broadly oval and 10-20 cm long by 4-9 cm wide. The leaves narrow towards the base. The flowers are in groups near the axils of the leaves. The flowers are yellow or white and have a waxy covering inside the funnel shaped tube. The fruit are fleshy and 5 mm across. They are blue to black with one seed inside.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in forests, thickets and along river banks and in palm groves. In Nigeria it is recorded at 1,440 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It is easily grown from cuttings.

NOTES

It accumulates aluminium and silicon from the soil.

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