PLANT FACT SHEET

Byrsonima verbascifolia (L.) Rich.

GENUS *Byrsonima* **FAMILY** Malpighiaceae

COMMON NAMES Murici

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds - oil

The fruit are used as juices. They are acid so are eaten with sugar.
They are also used for jams and puddings.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 4-6 m high. Often it is only 1 m high. The trunk is twisted. It is 15-25 cm across. The bark is thick and rough. The leaves are simple and near the ends of branches. They are 14-20 cm long by 6-12 cm wide. The flowers are in groups in the axils of leaves. They are 15-25 cm long on stalks 1-6 cm long. The flowers are red and yellow. The fruit is round and fleshy with a sweet pulp.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in the Amazon and central Brazil. It grows on dry soil.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. The ripe fruit are put in plastic bags to soften them and make it easier to removed the seeds. Fresh seed are planted and germinate in 4-8 weeks.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Plants grow slowly.

NOTES

There are 127 Byrsonima species. They grow in tropical America.

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