PLANT FACT SHEET

Sideroxylon lycioides L.

GENUS *Sideroxylon* **FAMILY** Sapotaceae

COMMON NAMES Shittamwood, Buckthorn bully, Buskthorn Bumelia

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

DESCRIPTION

An evergreen shrub. It is shiny. It grows 6 m high. The crown is spreading and open. The trunk is 15 cm across. The bark is reddish brown and thin and smooth. The leaves are alternate or clustered on short side twigs. The leaves are pointed and 5-12 cm long by 1.2-3 cm wide. They do not have hairs. The leaves are sword shaped and widest beyond the middle. They taper to the base. They are shiny green above and paler underneath. The flowers are white and in clusters. They are 3 mm wide. They are bell shaped. The fruit are purple-black berries. They are 12 mm long. There is one large seed. The fruit pulp is edible but bitter.

HABITAT

It grows along sandy creek banks and in drier forests. It grows up to 300 m altitude in the southern USA. It suits hardiness zones 6-10.

NOTES

There are about 25 Bumelia species. The Bumelia may be merged with the Sideroxylon.

REFERENCES

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Syn. pl. 1:237. 1805 (As Bumelia lycioides)

USDA Plants Database

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

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/3cd8d038-8f7e-42a7-b028-e4c25c3dfe11