PLANT FACT SHEET

Gustavia superba (Kunth) Berg

GENUS *Gustavia* **FAMILY** Lecythidaceae

COMMON NAMES Membrillo

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Nuts

The fruit are eaten raw or cooked. They are also used in soup.
The pulp of the fruit is used like a grease to cook rice in.

DESCRIPTION

An evergreen tree. It grows 15 m high. The wood when cut produces a bad smell. The leaves are simple and deep green. They are 128 cm long and broadly sword shaped. They are deeply veined. The flowers are creamy-white to pale pink and 15 cm across. They have 7-9 wavy petals. They have a sweet smell. The fruit are like berries and 10 cm across. They are orange. The pulp is edible. It has seeds buried in it.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It is native to Central and South America. It grows in rainforests and swampy woodlands. It can tolerate some drought. It grows up to 1,000 m altitude. It suits hardiness zones 10-12. In Townsville Anderson BG.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown from seed or by layering.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It flowers year round.

NOTES

There are 41 Gustavia species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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