PLANT FACT SHEET

Maranthes corymbosa Blume

GENUS *Maranthes* **FAMILY** Chrysobalanaceae

COMMON NAMES Sea bean, Liusin

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A large tree with greyish white thick and rigid branches. They are spreading and often drooping. It grows 8-15 m high and spreads 5-10 m wide. The young shoots have soft white hairs. The leaves are like paper and rounded and long and smooth. They are 7-15 cm long by 3-4 cm wide. There are 2 cup shaped glands on the upper surface near the leaf stalk. The flowers are crowded together on a stalk 10 cm long. The flowers are 1 cm across and cream. The fruit are oblong about 3 cm long and about 0.5 cm thick. They are reddish-purple to black.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It suits places with a seasonally dry climate. It needs well drained soil. It is sensitive to frost. It is widely distributed in lowland forest regions throughout the Philippines. It grows in northern Australia. In grows in monsoonal rainforests and coastal scrub. It grows from sea level to 1,500 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from fresh seed or cuttings.

NOTES

There are about 12 Maranthes species. They are mostly in tropical Africa. The fruit of most species are edible.

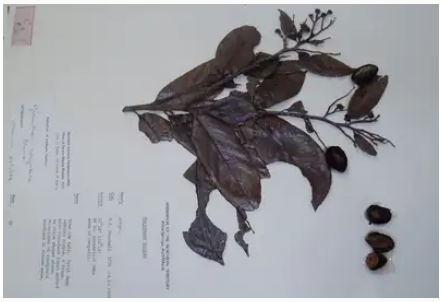
PICTURES



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