PLANT FACT SHEET

Vaccinium meridionale Swartz

GENUS *Vaccinium* **FAMILY** Ericaceae

COMMON NAMES Jamaica bilberry, Jamaican blueberry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are used to make jelly and in pies and tarts. They are also eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub. It grows 0.5-4 m tall. The leaves are alternate and 1.3-3 cm long by 0.4-1.2 cm wide. The fruit are red berries. They are 6-8 mm across.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows between 1,850-3,800 m above sea level.

NOTES

The fruit are high in anti-oxidants.

REFERENCES

García, N., Gil-Archila, E., y Bonilla, A. (2023). Ericáceas con frutos comestibles en Colombia. Biota Colombiana, 24(2), e1083.

Hedrick, U.P., 1919, (Ed.), Sturtevant's edible plants of the world. p 667

Kermath, B. M., et al, 2014, Food Plants in the Americas: A survey of the domesticated, cultivated and wild plants used for Human food in North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. On line draft. p 894

Lopez-Diago, D. & Garcia, N., 2021, Wild edible fruits of Colombia. Biota ColomBiana 22 (2) p 37

Martin, F. W., et al, 1987, Perennial Edible Fruits of the Tropics. USDA Handbook 642 p 94

Macmillan, H.F. (Revised Barlow, H.S., et al) 1991, Tropical Planting and Gardening. Sixth edition. Malayan Nature Society. Kuala Lumpur. p 319

Prodr. 62. 1788

Ramirez, D. L. A., 2010, Las Ericaceas Con Frutos Comestibles del Altiplano Cundiboyacense. Pontificia Univerisidad Javeriana, Bogota.

Roa, J. A. G. & Boada, D. S. G., 2018, Fundación para el Fortalecimiento de la Fruticultura y Plantas Alimenticias no Convencionales en Colombia.

Wiersema, J. H. & Leon, B., 2013, World Economic Plants. A Standard Reference CRC Press. 2nd Ed. p 709

World Checklist of Useful Plant Species 2020. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/3f247429-e323-4a1e-865a-41d163eec47c