PLANT FACT SHEET

Piper trichostachyon (Miq.)C. DC.

GENUS *Piper* **FAMILY** Piperaceae

COMMON NAMES Pouched pepper

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Spice

The unripe fruit are used as a spice. They are added to vegetables and preserved in pickles.

DESCRIPTION

A stout woody climber. The leaves are 8-12 cm long by 3-6 cm wide. They are narrowly oval and taper to the tip. The leaf stalk is 1-2 cm long. The spikes are 10 cm long. They are stout and drooping. The bracts are fleshy and form into a fleshy cup. The fruit is a berry 6 mm long and wide. It is yellowish red.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in evergreen forests and moist deciduous forests. It occurs in the Western Ghats in India.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

In south India is flowers and fruits March to April.

REFERENCES

Ambasta, S.P. (Ed.), 2000, The Useful Plants of India. CSIR India. p 461

Prakash, V., & Mehrotra B.N., 1987, Ethnobotanical Studies on the Flora of Khandala, Maharashtra State. J. Econ. Tax. Bot. Vol. 9 No. 1 pp 205-208

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