PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Berchemia hirtella* Tsai & K. M. Feng

**GENUS** *Berchemia* **FAMILY** Rhamnaceae

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Fruit, Leaves - tea

The fruit are eaten fresh.
The young leaves are used for making tea drinks.

## DESCRIPTION

A shrub. It lies over. The branches are spreading. The leaves are grey to yellow underneath. The leaves are narrowly oval and 7-10 cm long by 4-6 cm wide. The flowers are in groups at the ends of side branches. The fruit is purple to red when mature. It is oval and 11-14 mm long by 5-6 mm wide. There is a persistent cup at the base.

## HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. It grows in forests and thickets in valleys between 400-1,500 m above sea level. It grows in Yunnan in China.

## PRODUCTION

### Harvesting and Seed Production

In Yunnan fruit are harvested in August and September and leaves from April to June.

## REFERENCES

Ju, Y., et al, 2013, Eating from the wild: diversity of wild edible plants used by Tibetans in Shangri-la region, Yunnan, China, Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethno medicine 9:28

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