PLANT FACT SHEET

Horsfieldia spicata (Roxb.) Sinclair

GENUS *Horsfieldia* **FAMILY** Myristicaceae

COMMON NAMES Spike-like nutmeg

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

DESCRIPTION

A small tree with spreading horizontal branches. The leaves come one after another in two rows along the branch. The leaves are longer than wide with a pointed tip and rounded base. They can be 30 cm long by 8 cm wide. Both sides of the leaves are smooth but the top surface is green and shiny while the lower surface is whitish-green and dull flat colour. About 12-20 pairs of side veins join near the leaf edge. The leaf stalk is short (1 cm) with a furrow along the top. The flower cluster occurs on strong twigs on a branched stalk. The tree produces flowers of one sex with male and female flowers on different trees. The flowers are small and yellow. The fruit is pear shaped and 3 cm long by 2 cm across. The fruit is greenish yellow but turns red.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in the lowlands of Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands. It grows up to 1,000 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

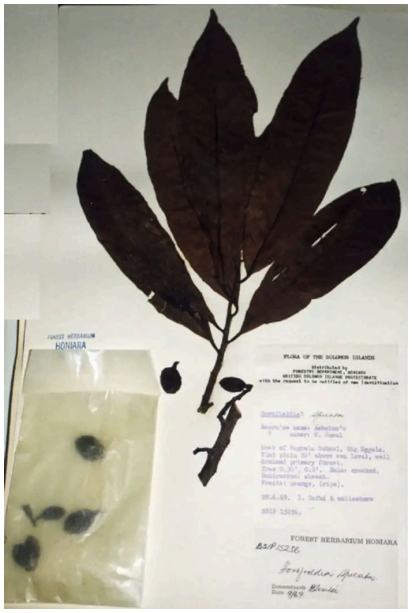
Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

NOTES

There are about 88 Horsfieldia species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/4832e03c-c4bc-4a1f-bd74-bc1484033da0