PLANT FACT SHEET

Dialium ovoideum Thw.

GENUS *Dialium* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Velvet tamarind

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The ripe fruit are eaten fresh.

DESCRIPTION

A tall tree. The bark is pale brown. The branches are slender and smooth. The leaves are small with leaflets along the stalk and one at the end. There are 2 pairs of leaflets. The are oval to sword shaped and are rounded at the base. They are dark shiny green. The flowers are very small and white. They are in pyramid shaped groups at the ends of branches. The fruit occur in bunches. The fruit is a pod 1-1.5 cm across. It is almost rounded and has a dense coating of brown hairs. There is one seed.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in evergreen forests and near rivers. In XTBG Yunnan.

NOTES

There are about 40 Dialium species. They grow in tropical SE Asia. They probably all have edible fruit. Also as Caesalpinaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

REFERENCES

Ashton, M. S., et al 1997, A Field Guide to the Common Trees and Shrubs of Sri Lanka. WHT Publications Ltd. pdf p 250

Hedrick, U.P., 1919, (Ed.), Sturtevant's edible plants of the world. p 270

Rajapaksha, U., 1998, Traditional Food Plants in Sri Lanka. HARTI, Sri Lanka. p 235

Macmillan, H.F. (Revised Barlow, H.S., et al) 1991, Tropical Planting and Gardening. Sixth edition. Malayan Nature Society. Kuala Lumpur. p 297

Solomon, C., 2001, Encyclopedia of Asian Food. New Holland. p 398

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/4ada867b-ccb7-4d32-8039-c12477196ae0