PLANT FACT SHEET

Cratoxylum formosum subsp. pruniflorum (Kurz) Gogelein

GENUS *Cratoxylum* **FAMILY** Hypericaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves - tea, Leaves

The leaves are edible but sour. They are eaten with other vegetables or used in sour soups.

DESCRIPTION

A deciduous tree. It grows 3-12 m tall. It has an open crown and slender branches. The bark is dark grey and cracked. The young leaves often have long woody spines. The leaves are 5-14 cm long by 3-5 cm wide. Young leaves are red. The leaves are bright green and have 7-12 pairs of clear veins that join in loops near the edge. The flowers are pale pink. They are in clusters of 3-5. The fruit are 1.5 cm long by 0.5 cm wide. They are dark brown and narrowly oval. They split into 3 sections each with 12-17 seeds.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in sparse secondary forests, thickets in mountain regions up to 1000 m altitude in China. In Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

NOTES

Also put in the family Clusiaceae.

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