PLANT FACT SHEET

Syzygium incarnatum (Elmer) Merr. & L. M. Perry

GENUS *Syzygium* **FAMILY** Myrtaceae

COMMON NAMES Kelat gelam

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows to 27 m high. The trunk is 45 cm across. It can have buttresses 1.5 m high. The bark is reddish and rough. It is papery and flaky. The leaves are leathery and oval. They are 2.5-11 cm long by 1.5-5 cm wide. They are broadest in the middle to upper third. They are round at the tip. The edges roll inwards. There are 16 pairs of straight veins. The flowers occur in panicles in the axils of leaves or at the ends of branches. These are 12 cm long. The flowers have very short stalks. The fruit is whitish and oval. It is 12-14 mm long by 7-8 mm wide. The tip is flattened and hollowed. The outer layer is fleshy. The fruit is edible.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. They grow in lowland forest often in swampy forest near rivers.

NOTES

The roots are boiled with water and drunk as an energizer.

REFERENCES

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Burkill, I.H., 1966, A Dictionary of the Economic Products of the Malay Peninsula. Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Vol 1 (A-H) p 989 (As Eugenia punctulata)

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