PLANT FACT SHEET

Coptosperma littorale Hiern

GENUS *Coptosperma* **FAMILY** Rubiaceae

COMMON NAMES Dune enterospermum, Dune butterspoon, Limpopo butterspoon

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seed

The fruit can be eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A leafy shrub or small tree. It grows up to 4.5 m high. The twigs are 4 angled. The bark is grey and smooth. The young growth has large leafy stipules. The leaves are simple, opposite and hard. They are 9 cm long by 4 cm wide. They are often widest in the upper half and tapering to the base. The tips are rounded. The stipules between the leaves are triangular and easy to see. The flowers are tiny and white or yellow. The occur in small 3 branched sprays at the ends of branches. The fruit are pea sized, round and brown. They are covered with raised lines. The fruit are edible. The fruit are about 1 cm across. There is one seed. The seed is 4 mm across.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows near the seashore. It grows in the lowlands. It suits the seasonally dry tropics.

NOTES

Tarenna littoralis (Hiern) Bridson is a synonym of Coptosperma littorale (Hiern) Degreef. while Tarenna littoralis Merr. is an accepted name.

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/4e1fc06e-a225-4671-a142-07e921e5efee