PLANT FACT SHEET

Cayratia gracilis (Guill. & Perr.) Suesseng.

GENUS *Cayratia* **FAMILY** Vitaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Vegetable

The leaves are occasionally eaten as a vegetable.
In Senegal it is eaten with the roots of Elephant foot yam (Amorphophallus).

DESCRIPTION

A creeper. The stems and branches are smooth. It has tendrils. The leaves have 5-8 sets of leaflets. The leaf blade is 7.5 cm long by 3.5 cm wide. They are narrowly oval. They taper to the tip and are rounded at the base. There are teeth along the edge. The flowers are in the axils of leaves and are about 10 cm long. The fruit are 6.5 mm long by 6.5 mm wide. There are 4 seeds in the fruit. They are 5.5 mm long. The two inner surfaces are flat.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in shady and damp places in the savannah and lowland forests. It grows from sea level to 1,500 m altitude.

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