PLANT FACT SHEET

Physalis angulata L.

GENUS *Physalis* **FAMILY** Solanaceae

COMMON NAMES Toothed-leaved winter cherry, Angular winter-cherry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Leaves, Vegetable

The ripe fruit can be eaten raw or cooked. They can be fried, stewed or made into marmalade by cooking in palm syrup. They can be used in the preparation of hot chili sauces.
The young leaves are used in soup.

DESCRIPTION

A perennial herb up to about 1 m high. The leaves are smooth. The stems are angular. The leaves are oval and have teeth along the edge. They are 5-10 cm long by 3-6 cm wide. The flowers occur singly. The flowers are small and cream coloured. They do not have a dark spot. It has a yellow berry with many seeds inside. The berry is enclosed in a veiny inflated case about 3 cm across. This has reddish brown veins. The berries are sticky.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It mostly occurs above 1000 m and up to 2800 m altitude. It can grow in arid places. In Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It is easily grown by sprinkling a few seeds into moist ground. It grows easily under most conditions. If the plants are in a very sheltered place, fertilization is improved by spraying the plants with water.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In southern India plants flower and fruit July to December.

NOTES

There are about 75-100 Physalis species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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