PLANT FACT SHEET

Antidesma membranaceum Muell. Arg.

GENUS *Antidesma* **FAMILY** Phyllanthaceae

COMMON NAMES Pink tassel berry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit is eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or small tree. It grows to 5 m high. Sometimes it is 13 m high. The bark is brown and rough. Young branches are covered with brown, velvety hairs. The leaves are oval and 13 cm long by 5.5 cm wide. They are dark green and velvety above and yellowish below. It tapers to a rounded base. The flowers are yellowish-green in slender catkins 10 cm long. The female flowers are less fluffy. The fruit are berry-like and 3 mm across. They are pinkish in colour. They are clustered on long hanging stalks about 10 cm long.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows at low altitudes in forests near rivers. It can be in palm groves. In Nigeria it has been recorded at 400 and 600 m above sea level.

NOTES

There are about 100-170 Antidesma species. It is also put in the family Euphorbiaceae. It is used in medicine.

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