PLANT FACT SHEET

Pittosporum ferrugineum Dryander ex W.T. Aiton

GENUS *Pittosporum* **FAMILY** Pittosporaceae

COMMON NAMES Rusty Pittosporum, Mock Orange

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds

DESCRIPTION

A tall shrub or small tree. It grows up to 20 m tall. Sometimes it is only 3-4 m tall. The branches have rusty hairs. The leaves are 25 cm long by 8 cm wide. They are alternate and sword shaped. They are dark green above and with rusty hairs underneath. Flowers are about 0.8 cm across. They are white or creamy yellow. They occur in groups at the ends of branches. The flower petals are 6-7 mm long. The fruit is a 3-valve capsule. It is tiny and the fruit is a dull yellow. The fruit is about 1.5 cm across. The seeds are right red and sticky.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It suits seasonally dry areas. It does best in shade. It needs well drained soils. It grows in vine forests and on the edges of rainforests.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed or cuttings of firm young growth.

NOTES

There are about 200 Pittosporum species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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