PLANT FACT SHEET

Gmelina asiatica L.

GENUS *Gmelina* **FAMILY** Lamiaceae

COMMON NAMES Asiatic beechberry, Oval-leafed gmelina

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The ripe fruits are eaten.
They are also candied in sugar

DESCRIPTION

A climbing shrub. It has many branches and thorns. The spines when present are short and simple. It grows 3 m high. It loses its leaves during the year. The bark is dark brown and becomes rough and cracked with age. The leaves are 2-4 cm long and often have 3 lobes. They are smooth and are paler underneath. The flowers are yellow and bell shaped. They have a prominent lower 'lip'. The fruit are small and pear shaped. They are 2-4 cm across.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It is common in undergrowth. It grows in moist places. In southern China it grows in mixed forests between 400-800 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

NOTES

There are 33 Gmelina species. They are mostly tropical. Also put in the family Verbenaceae.

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