PLANT FACT SHEET

Madhuca motleyana (de Vriese) J. F. Macbr.

GENUS *Madhuca* **FAMILY** Sapotaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Nuts - oil, Fruit, Leaves, Flower - nectar

The oil from the seeds is used for cooking and also for making margarine and pastries.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 40 m high. The trunk can be 100 cm across. It can have knee like pneumatophores or bent breathing roots. The twigs are 4 angled. They are 4-5 mm thick and hairy. The leaves are alternate and simple. The leaves are scattered along the twigs. They are leathery and oval. They are 4.5-10 cm long by 3-6.5 cm wide. They are broadest in the middle. They taper to the tip. The base is slightly unequal. There are 3-17 flowers per cluster. They are in the axils of leaves. The flower stalk is 20 mm long. The fruit are oval and 3 cm long by 1.8 cm wide. There are 1-2 seeds. The fruit are edible.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in freshwater swamps or seasonally flooded land. It can grow up to 600-1,000 m altitude. It can grow on poor sandy soils.

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