PLANT FACT SHEET

Physalis pubescens L.

GENUS *Physalis* **FAMILY** Solanaceae

COMMON NAMES Downy ground-cherry, Goldenberry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are eaten raw. They are also dried, pickled, stewed, and added to salads. They are used in pies, preserves, sauces, jams and ice cream toppings.
They can be dried in sugar to use in fruit cakes.

DESCRIPTION

An annual herb. It grows 50-120 cm high. It is yellowish-green and has soft hairs. The leaves are simple and thin. The leaves are 2-6 cm long. The flowers occur singly. The flowers are yellow with purple-brown spots. There are several named cultivated varieties. The fruit are round and in a balloon like calyx. The fruit are orange. The pulp is sweet.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows from sea level to 1,300 m above sea level. It can tolerate some shade. It can grow in arid places.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown by seed.

NOTES

There are about 75-100 Physalis species.

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