PLANT FACT SHEET

Use with caution

This plant can be harmful if it is eaten raw, in large amounts or without the right preparation. Read the whole fact sheet before use.

Phaleria macrocarpa (Scheff.) Boerl.

GENUS *Phaleria* **FAMILY** Thymelaeaceae

COMMON NAMES The great gora tree, God's crown tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit is poisonous unless processed and then probably only as medicine.

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It grows 6-18 m tall. The young branches are hollow. The leaves are narrowly oval and 10-25 cm long by 3-10 cm wide. They are smooth, opposite and papery. There are 6-11 pairs of veins. The flowering shoots are at the ends of branches and in the axils of leaves or on the trunks. There can be 2-8 flowers in a group. The flowers are 2-4 cm long. The fruit is about 3-5 cm long by 3-4 cm across and oval. The fruit are green and turn red when ripe. The seeds are 1.5 cm long by 1.3 cm wide.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows from sea level to about 550 m and occasionally to 1,000 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Plants produce fruit about one year after planting.

NOTES

It is an anti-oxidant and popular as medicine. It has been shown to have a range of medicinal benefits.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/587f0695-244a-4928-bebf-b0efecbe8fee