PLANT FACT SHEET

Manilkara concolor (Harv. ex C.H.Wright) Gerstner

GENUS *Manilkara* **FAMILY** Sapotaceae

COMMON NAMES Zulu milkberry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are eaten raw and fresh.
They are also used to make fermented drink.

DESCRIPTION

A tree with a pear shape. It can grow to 22 m tall. The trunk can be 1.2 m across. In drier places it is lower and more spreading. The leaves are crowded towards the ends of branches. They are oblong and usually slightly wider in the upper section. The base is narrowed. Leaves are 1.3-5 cm long and 0.6-1.9 cm wide. They are smooth and leathery. Often they are dull green with a yellow midrib. The flowers are small and yellow. They occur in bunches in the axils of leaves. They tend to droop downwards. The fruit are round berries. They are 1.9 cm long and red when ripe. There are 1-2 shiny brown seeds inside. The fruit are edible and sweet.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in coastal forest and sandstone country. It grows in low altitude forest. It often grows on termite mounds. It can grow in arid places.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

In South Africa, fruit are available January to March.

NOTES

There are about 75 Manilkara species.

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

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