PLANT FACT SHEET

Melodinus cochinchinensis (Lour.) Merr.

GENUS *Melodinus* **FAMILY** Apocynaceae

COMMON NAMES Giom nam

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds

The ripe fruit are eaten fresh. They are boiled with pork for soup.

DESCRIPTION

A robust evergreen creeper. The young branches are hairy. It has milky sap. The leaf stalks are 6-10 cm long. The leaves are narrowly oval and 6-12 cm long by 2-4 cm wide. They taper to a short tip and are blunt at the base. The flowers are white. They are in groups at the ends of branches and these are 3-7 cm long. The fruit are almost round and 6 cm long by 4 cm across. They are red-orange. The fruit have a sweet pulp around the seeds.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It is native to southern China between 1,600-2,900 m altitude. It grows in humid forests. In Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In southern China plants flower May to November and fruit August to December.

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