PLANT FACT SHEET

Syzygium gerrardii (Harv. ex Hook.f.) Burtt Davy

GENUS *Syzygium* **FAMILY** Myrtaceae

COMMON NAMES Forest water berry, Bush waterwood

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit is eaten as a snack.

DESCRIPTION

A medium sized tree. It grows up to 25 m tall. The trunk is often very white or silver and can be 2.5 m across. The leaves grow in opposite pairs. The leaf stalk has a groove along it. The leaves are 3.5-9 cm long by 1.3-5 cm wide. They are egg shaped and the tip tapers to a point. The edge of the leaves are rolled inwards and wavy. The midrib is sunken on the upper leaf surface and raised underneath the leaf. There are up to 20 pairs of very fine side veins. Leaves are dark green and shiny above and paler underneath. The flowers are white or with a purple tinge. They occur in clusters in the angles of leaves or at the ends of branches. The fruit are 1.9 cm long and red when ripe. They have a crown at the top. They are juicy. The fruit is edible.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It occurs in South Africa. It grows in a range of different environments. Often they are in mist forests or near water.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It is grown from fresh seed.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It is fast growing.

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/66b86b84-7eaf-48c9-b304-b13e6ed274cb