PLANT FACT SHEET

Syzygium fibrosum (F. M. Bailey) T. Hartley & Perry

GENUS *Syzygium* **FAMILY** Myrtaceae

COMMON NAMES Fibrous satinash

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit is eaten raw. They can also be used for jam.

DESCRIPTION

A tree that grows about 5-10-15 m tall. It has a rounded canopy of leaves. The new leaf growth is bright purplish red. (This is more so when plants are in sunny positions.) The branches usually hang downwards. The bark is smooth and mottled brown-grey. The leaves are sword shaped and thick and leathery. They are 6-15 cm long by 4-5 cm wide. They are dark green and shiny on the upper surface and paler underneath. The tip is pointed. The flowers occur in clusters on the ends of branches. The flowers are dull orange to brown. They have many stamens which can be 2.5 cm long giving the flower a fluffy appearance. The fruit are round and bright red when ripe. They are fleshy and 2 cm across. The crown at the end is prominent. The fruit have one seed inside. Fruit can often be seedless. The fruit is edible.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. Trees occur in northeast Queensland in Australia and in Papua New Guinea. It is a rainforest species and also occurs in monsoon vine forest. It often grows near stream banks and in shady positions. They need well drained soils. They benefit from organic matter in the soil. It grows up to 1,400 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. They can be grown from cuttings but the cuttings are slow to strike.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Trees flower from April to December and the fruit are ripe July to January.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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

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