PLANT FACT SHEET

Rhodamnia sessiliflora Benth.

GENUS *Rhodamnia* **FAMILY** Myrtaceae

COMMON NAMES Iron malletwood

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

DESCRIPTION

A small tree to 8 m tall. It has a bushy habit. The young shoots have many pale hairs. The leaves are oval or rounded and 12-20 cm long by 5.5 cm across. They have 3 prominent veins. They are dark green on the upper surface and with woolly hairs underneath. The flowers occur in clusters. They are small and white to pink. They are hairy and without stalks. They grow in the axils of leaves. The fruit are berries which are black and round. They are about 0.5-1 cm across. They are covered with very small fine hairs. They contain 14-40 seeds. The seeds are 3.5 mm long by 3 mm across. The flesh of the fruit is edible.

HABITAT

It is a tropical and subtropical plant. It grows in the rainforest. In tropical Queensland it grows from sea level to 1200 m altitude.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed which must be planted fresh.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Australia, they flower from August to September and fruit from December to January (December to June).

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

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