PLANT FACT SHEET

Cleidiocarpon cavalieri (Leeille.) Airy-Shaw

GENUS *Cleidiocarpon* **FAMILY** Euphorbiaceae

COMMON NAMES Butterfly fruit, Mountain chestnut

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds, Seeds - oil

The fruit is eaten.
An edible oil can be extracted from the fruit.
The seeds are boiled and eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A large evergreen tree. It grows 15-30 m tall. The trunk is 40-100 cm across. The twigs are covered with hairs. The leaves are narrowly oval and 11-16 cm long by 2-6 cm wide. They taper to the tip and are wedge shaped at the base. The young leaves have hairs underneath. Male and female flowers are separate but on the same tree. The fruit are oblique and 3-4 cm long by 2-3 cm wide. They have greyish hairs.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in Northern Vietnam below 700 m altitude. In southern China it grows between 100-1,000 m above sea level. It grows on limestone. It requires sunlight. In XTBG Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

Trees grow quickly. In China plants flower and fruit may to November. The fruit is 30% edible oil.

NOTES

There are only 2 Cleidiocarpon species.

REFERENCES

Hu, Shiu-ying, 2005, Food Plants of China. The Chinese University Press. p 510

Oldfield, S., et al, 1998, The World List of Threatened Trees. World Conservation Press. p 126

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/73d5c6df-8732-42c7-9837-92c55e4fb0f4