PLANT FACT SHEET

Leea indica (Burm. f.) Merr.

GENUS *Leea* **FAMILY** Vitaceae

COMMON NAMES Bandicoot berry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Leaves, Vegetable, Root

The fruit are eaten.
The tender young leaves are used raw as a vegetable.
The root is eaten as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

A slender shrub. It grows 1-3 m tall and spreads 0.3-1 m wide. The stems are pithy. The young growth is pale green. The leaves are 30-60 cm long. The leaves are compound. They have leaflets along the stalk. The leaves can be divided 2-3 times. The leaflets are 6-25 cm long by 2-5 cm wide. The leaflets are glossy and have teeth along the edge. The leaflets have distinctive veins. The flowers are in groups 10-20 cm across and with many branches. The flowers are 0.4 cm across and green or cream. The fruit are berries 0.5 cm long and black.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. Plants are sensitive to cold. It grows from sea level to 1,700 m above sea level. In Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed or cuttings. Plants can be cut back and will regrow.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In China plants flower April to July and fruit August to December.

NOTES

Also put in the family Leeaceae. Leeaceae occur in the tropics. There are about 70 Leea species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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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