PLANT FACT SHEET

Xanthoceras sorbifolium Bunge

GENUS *Xanthoceras* **FAMILY** Sapindaceae

COMMON NAMES Yellow Horn, Northern macadamia, Official's hat fruit, Shiny-leaf yellowhorn

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Flowers, Leaves, Seeds

The leaves and flowers are boiled and eaten. They are also used for a tea like drink.
The seeds are husked and the grains powdered and boiled and eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It grows 8 m high. The bark is grey-brown and cracks into scaly ridges. It loses its leaves during the year. The leaves have leaflets along the stalk. The leaves are 30 cm long with up to 17 leaflets. These are narrowly oval and have teeth. The leaflets are 6 cm long and glossy green above. The flowers are white and have 5 petals. They are yellow to red at their bases. The fruit is a smooth thick-walled capsule. It is 6 cm across. It contains several pea sized seeds. The fruit are edible.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It is native to northern China. It grows in thickets. It is cold resistant and drought tolerant. It suits hardiness zones 6-9.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed, suckers or cuttings.

NOTES

There are (1) 2 Xanthoceras species.

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