PLANT FACT SHEET

Tamilnadia uliginosa (Retz.) Tirveng. & Sartre

GENUS *Tamilnadia* **FAMILY** Rubiaceae

COMMON NAMES Krum puk, Brilliant Gardenia

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Vegetable, Leaves

The fruit and leaves give colouring and are eaten after cooking. The fruit are used as a vegetable. They are eaten in curries. They are soaked in water for a few hours to lose their astringent quality then squeezed and prepared. The green fruit are cooked then mixed with salt and chili peppers.
The ripe fruit are cooked and eaten.
The leaves are boiled and eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or small tree. It grows 4-10 m tall. There are spines at the ends of the short shoots. The leaves are gathered in tufts on shortened branches. The leaves are 15 cm long by 7 cm wide. They are broadly oval. The flowers are white and 5 cm across and have a scent. The fruit is a berry 5 cm long. It is smooth and oval and turns yellow when ripe. The fruit is crowded with the remains of the outer ring of flower parts.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in wet dense forests. It grows on the Deccan in India. In Nepal it grows up to 300 m altitude.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In southern India plants fruit in April to June.

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