PLANT FACT SHEET

Ixora chinensis Lam.

GENUS *Ixora* **FAMILY** Rubiaceae

COMMON NAMES Dragon-boat flower

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Flowers

Fresh flowers are gathered and boiled with pork for soup.

DESCRIPTION

A small round evergreen shrub. It grows 0.5-2 m tall. It spreads 1.5 m wide. The leaves are glossy and deep green. They are oval and 6-18 cm long by 3-6 cm wide. They are in rings of about 4. The flowers are red or yellow. They are in heads 12 cm across. The fruit is reddish-black and 6-7 mm long by 6-7 mm wide.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It can grow in the subtropics. It is native to southern China where it grows between 200-800 m above sea level. It is common on hillsides. It can grow in full sun or light shade. It suits hardiness zones 10-12.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are usually grown from cuttings. It can be grown from seeds.

NOTES

There are about 400 Ixora species. They grow in tropical countries. It is used in medicine.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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