PLANT FACT SHEET

Elaeocarpus polydactylus Schltr. gp 4 Schltr.

GENUS *Elaeocarpus* **FAMILY** Elaeocarpaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: seeds, Nuts

The kernels inside the seeds are eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A tree or shrub up to 13 m tall. The leaves are 3-6 cm wide and 6-11 cm long and leathery. Flowers are few and are 5-11 cm long. Fruit are 1.5 cm x 1 cm. They are green when unripe and blue when ripe.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in regrowth forest at 1850-2550 m above sea level. It mainly occurs in the Western and Eastern Highlands Provinces of Papua New Guinea.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Trees grow wild from seed.

NOTES

There are about 360 Elaeocarpus species mostly in the tropics.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

REFERENCES

Bourke, M., 1995, Edible Indigenous Nuts in Papua New Guinea. In South Pacific Indigenous Nuts. ACIAR Proceedings No 69, Canberra. p 46

Coode, M.J.E., in Henty, E.E., (Ed.), 1981, Handbooks of the Flora of Papua New Guinea, Melbourne University Press, p 97

French, B.R., 1986, Food Plants of Papua New Guinea, A Compendium. Asia Pacific Science Foundation p 175

Walter, A. & Sam C., 2002, Fruits of Oceania. ACIAR Monograph No. 85. Canberra. p 279

World Checklist of Useful Plant Species 2020. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

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/81b30145-231f-42f7-a2dd-660d1b180805