PLANT FACT SHEET

Erythroxylum emarginatum Thonn.

GENUS *Erythroxylum* **FAMILY** Erythroxylaceae

COMMON NAMES Common coca tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or small tree. It grows 6 m tall. It can be 25 m tall. The bark is dark grey. It has cracks along it. The leaves are alternate and broadly sword shaped. The leaves are 2-13 cm long by 1-5 cm wide. The leaves are held in one plane and the ends of the branches are flattened. It has sweet-scented white flowers. The flowers are in small clusters and in the axils of leaves. They are white to cream. The fruit are red berries. They are fleshy. They are 10-13 mm long.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in coastal grassy savannah plains. It also grows on stream banks. In Malawi it grows in forests between 600-2,150 m altitude.

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