PLANT FACT SHEET

Maesobotrya barteri (Baill.) Hutch.

GENUS *Maesobotrya* **FAMILY** Phyllanthaceae

COMMON NAMES Bush berry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit is eaten and used to flavour sauces and other dishes. They are also used for jams and jellies. The fruit stain the tongue.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or small tree. It grows to 10 m high. The trunk is crooked. It produces its flowers and fruit along the trunk. The fruit are succulent and black/purple. They are oval and 1 cm long. They are edible.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It is an under-storey plant of the high rain-forest.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Liberia the fruit are produced from November to January.

REFERENCES

Awodoyin, R.O., Olubode, O.S., Ogbu, J.U., Balogun, R.B., Nwawuisi, J.U. and Orji, K.O., 2015, Indigenous Fruit Trees of Tropical Africa: Status, Opportunity for Development and Biodiversity Management. Agricultural Sciences, 6, 31-41

Burkill, H. M., 1985, The useful plants of west tropical Africa, Vol. 5. Kew.

Diop, A. l., et al, 2021, Cultural importance of wild edible plants in three sympatric communities: Agni, Akyé and Gwa in the Department of Alépé (Southeast of Côte d'Ivoire). Ethnobotany Research and Applications 22:35. p 7

FAO Corporate Document Repository. The Major Significance of 'Minor' Forest Products. Appendix 3

Hawthorne, W.& Marshall, C., 2013, Nimba Western Area Iron Ore Concentrator Mining Project Environmental and Social Impact Assessment. AcelorMittel Liberia. p 480

Hwang, L. C., et al, 2020, Traditional Botanical Uses of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) in Seven Counties in Liberia. ACS Symposium Series; American Chemical Society: Washington, DC, 2020.

Jardin, C., 1970, List of Foods Used In Africa, FAO Nutrition Information Document Series No 2.p 146

Manvell, A., 2011, Use of Non-Timber Forest Products around Sapo National Park, Liberia (Report B) p 16

Nkeoua, G. & Boundzanga, G. C., 1999, Donnees sur les produits forestieres non ligneux en Republique du Congo. FAO. p 31

Ogbuagu, M. N. & Agu, B., 2008, Fruit nutritive composition of Maesobotrya barteri, an under-exploited tropical African tree. Fruits, Vol. 63, p. 357-361

Okafor, J. C., 1978, Development of Forest Tree crops for Food Supplies in Nigeria. Forest Ecology and Management 1:235-247

Savill, P. S. & Fox, J. E. D., Trees of Sierra Leone. p 110

Ubom, R. M., 2010, Ethnobotany and Diversity Conservatioon in the Niger Delta, Nigeria. International Journal of Botany. 6(3): 310-322

Udo, E. S., et al, 2009, Life-form and Density of Valuable Non-timber Plants in Ukpom Community Forest, Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria. African Research Review 3(3) p 8

Vivien, J., & Faure, J.J., 1996, Fruitiers Sauvages d'Afrique. Especes du Cameroun. CTA p 151

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/89f7161b-4d7a-4d2e-ac61-1f826292cb7c