PLANT FACT SHEET

Syzygium cerasiforme (Blume) Merr. & L. M. Perry

GENUS *Syzygium* **FAMILY** Myrtaceae

COMMON NAMES Guava berry, Common kelat, Striped myrtle tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Fruit

The young shoots are eaten.
The ripe fruit are sometimes eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows to 25 m high. The trunk is 35 cm across. There are buttresses 70 cm high. The dark is grey brown. It is smooth and slightly scaly. The leaves are oval or sword shaped and 5-11 cm long by 2-5 cm wide. They are broadest in the middle. They taper to the tip. The edges can be wavy. The base tapers narrowly. There are 16-25 pairs of secondary veins. The flowering stalks are both in the axils of upper leaves and at the ends. They are 2-10 cm long. The flowering stalk is 2 cm long. The flowers are white or pale yellow. They occur in 3's. The fruits are white. They are oval and 10-13 mm long by 10 mm wide. There are calyx lobes in a ring at the tip. The outer layer is pith, sweet and has a smell.

Now Syzygium cerasiforme.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in lowland forests and in peat swamp. It is often along streams. In Indonesia it grows up to 1,100 m altitude.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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