PLANT FACT SHEET

Elaeoluma glabrescens (Martius & Eichler) Aubreville

GENUS *Elaeoluma* **FAMILY** Sapotaceae

COMMON NAMES Glabrescent elaeoluma

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 25-38 m high. The trunk can be 60 cm across. The young shoots have a few fine hairs. The bark is pale grey and scales off in thin papery scales. The leaves are spaced or loosely clustered and arranged in spirals. They are 8-19.5 cm long by 3-7.6 cm wide. There are about 9-12 pairs of secondary veins. The leaf stalk is 0.5-2 cm long. The flowers are of one sex and separate male and female flowers are on separate trees. The flowers are in tufts of 3-25 flowers. They are pale greenish-white. The fruit stalk is 0.3-1.2 cm long. The fruit are 2-3 cm long. They are broadly oval. They turn reddish, purple and black as they ripen. The fruit are sweet and edible. There is one seed. It is 1.3-1.6 cm long.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows along rivers and in occasionally or permanently flooded forest. It grows in wetlands. It can occur in cloud forest up to 750 m altitude.

NOTES

There are 4 Elaeoluma species. They are in Central America.

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