PLANT FACT SHEET

Bridelia mollis Hutch.

GENUS *Bridelia* **FAMILY** Phyllanthaceae

COMMON NAMES Velvet sweet berry, Velvet bridelia

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are eaten fresh or dried.
They can be used for jam and juice.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or small tree. It grows to 7 m high. It often has many branches and is spreading. The bark is dark grey and often rough with vertical stripes. It loses its leaves during the year. The leaves are oval and 2.5-13 cm long by 1.3-9 cm wide. The young leaves are golden and furry. The older leaves have soft hairs. The edge of the leaf is scalloped. The flowers are small and greenish-yellow. They are in tight clusters in the axils of leaves. The fruit are almost round and 10 mm across. They are clustered along the branches. They are finely velvety when young. They are black when mature. The fruit are edible.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows at low altitudes. It is often amongst rocks. It grows between 100-1,525 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places.

NOTES

There are about 60 Bridelia species.

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