PLANT FACT SHEET

Melastoma dodecandrum Loureiro

GENUS *Melastoma* **FAMILY** Melastomataceae

COMMON NAMES Ground berry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The ripe fruit are eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A creeping herb. It keeps growing from year to year. The base of the stem is woody. The young portions are hairy. The leaves are opposite and broadly oval. They are 1-5 cm long by 1-2 cm wide. The flowers are purple-pink. They are 3 cm across. They bloom only in sunshine. There are 1- in groups at the ends of branches. The fruit are round and purple. They are like berries and 7-10 mm across. They are sweet and juicy.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows on dry slopes and bare rocks. In China it grows in open fields and grasslands below 1,300 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

In China plants flower in May to July and fruit July to September.

REFERENCES

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