PLANT FACT SHEET

Meliosma rhoifolia Maxim.

GENUS *Meliosma* **FAMILY** Sabiaceae

COMMON NAMES Mountain pork

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Shoots, Leaves

The young shoots are eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A medium sized tree. It grows 10 m high. The leaves have an odd number of leaflets. The leaf stalks are fattened at the base. The leaflets are leathery and vary in size but can be 3-15 cm long by 2-4 cm wide. They are shiny above and pale underneath. There are 11-13 veins on each side of the leaf. The flowers are in groups at the ends of branches. They have rusty soft hairs but these fall off. The fruit is round and 4-5 mm across.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. In Taiwan it grows in forests between 300-1,800 m altitude in the north of the island.

NOTES

They are also put in the Meliosmaceae family.

REFERENCES

Hu, Shiu-ying, 2005, Food Plants of China. The Chinese University Press. p 526

Kuo, W. H. J., (Ed.) Taiwan's Ethnobotanical Database (1900-2000), http://tk.agron.ntu.edu.tw/ethnobot/DB1.htm

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