PLANT FACT SHEET

Edibility uncertain

It has not been confirmed that this plant is safe to eat. Do not eat it on the strength of this fact sheet alone.

Leuenbergeria portulacifolia (L.) Lode

GENUS *Leuenbergeria* **FAMILY** Cactaceae

COMMON NAMES Barbados gooseberry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

DESCRIPTION

A cactus. It is shrubby or treelike. It grows 3-5 m high and the trunks are 15-20 cm across. The leaves vary in shape and size. They are spoon shaped or heart shaped and 5-15 mm long by 4-10 mm wide. The twigs have groups of 0-3 spines and there can be groups of 50 on the trunks. They are 10-22 mm long. The flowers occur singly and are pink or purple. They are 3-3.5 cm across. The fruit are almost round and 1.8-3 cm across.

HABITAT

A tropical plant.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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REFERENCES

Anderson, E.F., 2001, The Cactus Family, Timber Press. p 570 (As Pereskia portulacifolia)

Plants of Haiti Smithsonian Institute http://botany.si.edu (As Pereskia portulacifolia)

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Smith, N., Mori, S.A., et al, 2004, Flowering Plants of the Neotropics. Princeton. p 75 (As Pereskia portulacifolia)

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French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/9428aba6-6905-4411-a7a2-57d1ddc96465