PLANT FACT SHEET

Litsea umbellata (Lour.) Merr.

GENUS *Litsea* **FAMILY** Lauraceae

COMMON NAMES Mayang laurel tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Fruit

The young leaves are served raw.
The mature leaves are put into curries.
The juice extracted from the leaves is put into rice to give it a green colour.
The fruit are eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub. It keeps its leaves throughout the year. It grows up to 6 m high. The leaves are alternate. They are oval and rough. They have a prominent midrib. They are 8-12 cm long by 2.3-4 cm wide. The leaf stalk is 5-10 mm long. The flower head comes from the axils of leaves. It has a short stalk. The flowers are separately male and female on the same plant. There are 1-5 flowers together. They are very small and yellow. The fruit is round and 5-6 mm across.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It is found in moist places in evergreen forest. In China it grows in open forests between 300-1000 m altitude in southern China.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

NOTES

There are 200 or 400 Litsea species.

REFERENCES

Jacquat, C., 1990, Plants from the Markets of Thailand. D.K. Book House p 35

Li Xi-wen, Li Jie, Huang Puhua, van der Werff, H., Lauraceae. Flora of China.

Sukarya, D. G., (Ed.) 2013, 3,500 Plant Species of the Botanic Gardens of Indonesia. LIPI p 365

Suwardi, A.B., et al, 2023, The diversity and regional conservation status of wild edible fruit species in Sumatra, Indonesia. Biodiversitas Vol. 24 No. 6. pp 3245-3257

Syamsuardi, et al, 2022, Diversity and use of wild edible fruits in the Bukit Rimbang-Bukit Baling Wildlife Reserve, Kampar, Riau, Indonesia. Biodiversitas. Vol. 23 No. 10 : 5035-5042 - Sumatra.

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/982d61af-be23-49af-bb64-9c980a674d1f