PLANT FACT SHEET

Benkara malabarica (Lam.) Tirveng.

GENUS *Benkara* **FAMILY** Rubiaceae

COMMON NAMES Malabar benkara

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Flowers

The flowers are washed and then stir-fried in oil and spices.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or small tree. It grows 2-3 m tall. The stems have short thorns. These can be simple or branched. The bark is grey. The leaves are simple and overlap at the base. They are broadly oval and 7 cm long. They are leathery. The flowers are in the axils of leaves. They are white and have a corolla tube with a ring of hairs inside. They have a scent. The fruit is a round, red berry.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in semi-evergreen forests up to 600 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

REFERENCES

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/9deb2259-94c6-462d-9280-ef5ee10fe955