PLANT FACT SHEET

Embelia schimperi Vatke

GENUS *Embelia* **FAMILY** Primulaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Fruit, Vegetable

The leaves are eaten raw in small amounts as a snack. They taste salty.
The ripe fruit are eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It can be a shrubby climber. It grows 7 m tall. The bark is smooth and red-brown. The twigs have raised dots. The leaves are arranged in spirals and crowded at the ends of branches. The leaves vary a lot in shape. The leaves are oval and 8 cm long by 4 cm wide. There are 15 or more side veins. The flowers are small and green-white. There are many fruit on stalks. They are 6 cm across. They are red when ripe. There is one seed inside.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. In Ethiopia is grows as an under-storey tree and grows between 1,700-2,600 m altitude. It grows along the edges of forests, on river banks and on termite mounds. In Tanzania it grows between 1,000-3,200 m above sea level. It grows in areas with a rainfall between 800-2,000 mm.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed.

Harvesting and Seed Production

The leaves are collected during the early rains.

NOTES

There are about 140 Embelia species. Also put in the family Myrsinaceae.

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