PLANT FACT SHEET

Fadogia ancylantha Hiern.

GENUS *Fadogia* **FAMILY** Rubiaceae

COMMON NAMES Makoni tea bush

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Fruit, flower - nectar

The ripe fruit are fleshy and are eaten raw.
Dry leaves are boiled and used for tea.
The nectar of the flowers is sucked by children.

DESCRIPTION

A low growing woody shrub with a woody rootstock 2 cm across. It grows up to 1.8 m tall. There are 2-6 stems. The stems are 3 angled and slightly hairy. The leaves are in pairs or rings of three. They are 3-11 cm long by 1-7 cm wide. The flowers are usually as 2-3 together. They are 2 cm long. They are greenish-yellow and tube shaped. The fruit are grey-green and 12 mm across. They can have 5 lobes.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in woodland and wooded grassland. It grows between 850-1,680 m altitude. It is often on termite mounds. It suits the wet tropics.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from fresh seeds.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Tanzania the ripe fruit are collected from October to January. The dried leaves can be stored for use for tea.

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