PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Micropholis egensis* (A. de Candolle) Pierre

**GENUS** *Micropholis* **FAMILY** Sapotaceae

**COMMON NAMES** Caimitillo, Caimito

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Fruit

## DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 40 m high. The trunk is 60 cm across. Large trees can have buttresses. The young shoots have a few fine hairs. The bark becomes pale, cracked and scaly. The leaves are spaced and mostly alternate. They are 9-20 cm long by 3-9 cm wide. They are oval. The leaf stalk is 0.3-1.5 cm long. The flowers are of one sex with both flowers on one tree. They occur in tufts of 3-15 flowers in the axils of leaves. The flowers are yellowish-green. The fruit is 2.5-3 cm long. The fruit matures reddish, purple or black. It is narrowly oval. The fruit are edible. There is one seed. It is 2-2.7 cm long.

## HABITAT

A tropical plant. It is normally in flooded forest. It is usually below 500 m altitude.

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