PLANT FACT SHEET

Cleistanthus sumatranus (Miq.) Mull.Arg.

GENUS *Cleistanthus* **FAMILY** Phyllanthaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or tree. It grows 20 m tall. The leaves are leathery and egg-shaped and green above and pale green underneath. They are 2-10 cm long by 1-4 cm wide. The flowers are in clusters of up to 7 in the axils or on the branches. The fruit are purplish-red and 1 cm across. There can be up to 2 brown seeds in each section of the fruit.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows up to 775 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

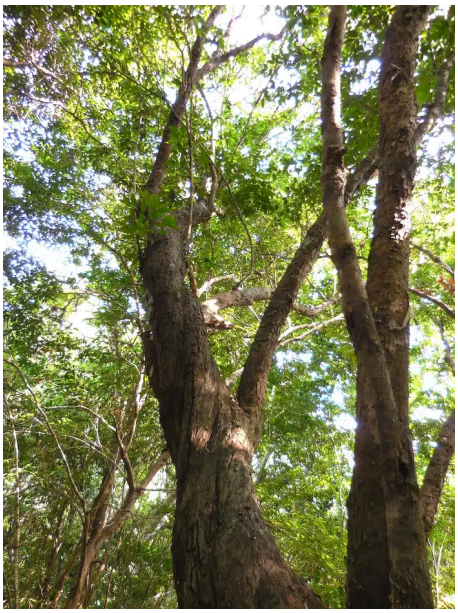
Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

NOTES

There are about 100-140 Cleistanthus species.
It has also been put in the family Euphorbiaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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Burkill, I.H., 1966, A Dictionary of the Economic Products of the Malay Peninsula. Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Vol 1 (A-H) p 587 (As Cleistanthus heterophyllus)

Martin, F.W. & Ruberte, R.M., 1979, Edible Leaves of the Tropics. Antillian College Press, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico. p 191 (As Cleistanthus heterophyllus)

Schatz, G.E., 2001, Generic Tree Flora of Madagascar. Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew and Missouri Botanical Garden. p 151 (Genus)

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PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/b3c6a7e6-56d2-4dd0-883a-773e2e31d923