PLANT FACT SHEET

Garuga floribunda Decne

GENUS *Garuga* **FAMILY** Burseraceae

COMMON NAMES Garuga

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Leaves

The fruit is eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It grows 8-12 m tall and spreads 5-10 m wide. The branches are thick and have scars left where the leaves have fallen. The leaves are crowded at the ends of branches. The leaves are 10-30 cm long and divided into leaflets along the central stalk. There are 14-16 leaflets and these are 4-8 cm long by 2-4 cm across. They are oval or sword shaped. They are leathery and dark green on the upper surface and paler underneath. They taper towards the tip and have unequal slanting sides at the base. Young leaves often have a reddish tinge. The flower branch is 20-30 cm across and occurs at the ends of small branches. They flowers are greenish white and hairy and 1 cm across. The fruit is fleshy with a woody shell around the seed inside. The fruit is about 2.5 cm across. It is oval and rough. The fruit is edible.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It suits coastal regions in tropical places. It is very sensitive to cold. They need an open sunny position and well drained soil. It grows from sea level to 450 m altitude in Samoa. In the Indian Himalayas it grows between 200-900 m above sea level. It is often in seasonally wet and dry regions. In XTBG Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

They are grown from seed which should be sown while fresh. The seed germinate irregularly. To break the seed coat it may pay to scratch the seed then soak in water before sowing.

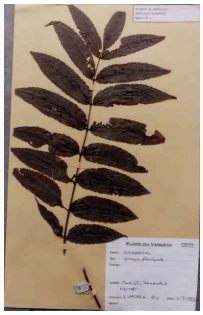
NOTES

There are 4 Garuga species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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