PLANT FACT SHEET

Melicoccus lepidopetalus Radlk.

GENUS *Melicoccus* **FAMILY** Sapindaceae

COMMON NAMES Ivapovo

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds

The ripe fruit are eaten fresh.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 10-15 m high. The trunk is 40-60 cm across. It has a dense crown of leaves. The branches are crooked. The leaves are compound with two leaflets opposite. The leaves are oval and 8-10 cm long by 3-4 cm wide. The base is unequal. The leaf stalk is 1.5 cm long. The flowers are white. Male and female flowers are separate. The fruit is fleshy and has a hard stone inside. There is a large seed.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. In Bolivia it grows up to 600 m altitude. It Argentina it grows up to 500 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. Ripe fruit are harvested and put into plastic bags to soften to make it easier to remove the seeds. The seeds are washed and planted fresh. They germinate in 15-25 days.

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