PLANT FACT SHEET

Rhoicissus capensis (Brum.) Planch

GENUS *Rhoicissus* **FAMILY** Vitaceae

COMMON NAMES Cape grape, Evergreen grape

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Leaves

Fruit can be used in making jellies, preserves and syrups.
The young leaves and shoots can be eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A climber. It climbs by tendrils. It can be 10-17 m long. The young leaves are bronze coloured. They turn bright shiny green. They are round or kidney shaped with a rusty tinge underneath. They are 10-20 cm long. The flowers are small and yellow and produced in clusters. The fruit are berries which are glossy and reddish-black to blue-black. They are 2 cm across. The berries are edible.

HABITAT

They need fertile soil which is well drained. They do best in part shade. They need protection from the heat of direct sun. The soil need to be kept evenly moist. Plants should be mulched around the base.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from tubers. The clump of tubers can be divided.

NOTES

There are about 10 Rhoicissus species.

REFERENCES

Bodkin, F., 1991, Encyclopedia Botanica. Cornstalk publishing, p 881

Brickell, C. (Ed.), 1999, The Royal Horticultural Society A-Z Encyclopedia of Garden Plants. Convent Garden Books. p 882

Crandall, C & Crandall, B., 1996, Flowering Fruiting and Foliage vines. Sterling. p 93

Facciola, S., 1998, Cornucopia 2: a Source Book of Edible Plants. Kampong Publications, p 245

Hedrick, U.P., 1919, (Ed.), Sturtevant's edible plants of the world. p 682 (As Vitis capensis)

Jardin, C., 1970, List of Foods Used In Africa, FAO Nutrition Information Document Series No 2.p 158

Tanaka,

Uphof,

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/bb1e7a1b-ff29-4cfc-82ab-40dc3df338b9