PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Illigera luzonensis* (Presl.) Merr.

**GENUS** *Illigera* **FAMILY** Hernandiaceae

**COMMON NAMES** Tai-wan-qing-teng, Binat

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Leaves

The leaves are cooked and eaten with fish.

## DESCRIPTION

A climbing shrub with alternate leaves with 3 leaflets. The stems are angular. The leaf stalks are 4-10 cm long. The leaflet stalks are 0.5-1.8 cm long. The leaf blade is oval and 3.5-12 cm long by 3-10 cm wide. Leaves are papery. The flowering stalks are 7-15 cm long. Fruit have 2 broad wings on the side and do not split open.

## HABITAT

A tropical plant. They are common in areas of shrub at low and medium altitudes in the Philippines from northern Luzon to Palawan. In China they are in dense secondary forest from near sea level to 1,300 m above sea level.

## NOTES

There are about 30 Illigera species.

## REFERENCES

Flora China.

Monsalud, M.R., Tongacan, A.L., Lopez, F.R., & Lagrimas, M.Q., 1966, Edible Wild Plants in Philippine Forests. Philippine Journal of Science. p 482

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