PLANT FACT SHEET

Irvingia malayana Oliv. ex Bennett

GENUS *Irvingia* **FAMILY** Irvingiaceae

COMMON NAMES Bush mango tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Fruit

The kernel of the seed is eaten roasted.
The ripe fruit is sweet and edible.

DESCRIPTION

A large tree 15-30 m tall. The trunk is 40-60 cm across. The trunk is usually angular at the base. The bark is smooth and can peel off in large pieces. The leaves are simple and oval. They are smooth and shiny on the upper surface and covered with very short hairs underneath. Leaves are 8-20 cm long by 2.5-9 cm wide. The leaf stalk is 9-14 mm long. The flower panicle is in the axils of leaves. It is 5-15 cm long. The flowers are about 2.5 mm long. The petals are white and it has a smell. The fruit is fleshy with a stone inside. The fruit is oval and 3-6 cm long by 4 cm wide. It has one seed. The fruit is yellow when mature.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in tropical evergreen or semi-deciduous forests. It is a light demanding tree but only grows in shade when young. It has drought tolerance. It grows up to 250-600 m altitude. It can be on sandy and clay soils.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown by seeds. It can be cut back and re-grow.

NOTES

The fat from the fruit and seeds is used for soap and candles.
It is also put in the family Simaroubaceae.

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