PLANT FACT SHEET

Cinnamomum iners Reinw. ex Blume

GENUS *Cinnamomum* **FAMILY** Lauraceae

COMMON NAMES Wild cinnamon tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Bark, Spice, Fruit, Leaves

The bark is used as a spice.
The leaves are used as seasoning especially in curries. They are also eaten raw.
An essential oil distilled from the leaves is used to flavour candy and sweetmeats.
The fruit are recorded as eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A large tree. It grows to 20 m high. The trunk can be 20 cm across. The leaves are opposite, smooth and leathery. The leaf blades are 12-35 cm long by 5.5-8.5 cm wide. New flushes of leaves follow rain and are reddish pink. They are rounded at the base and taper to the tip. The flowers are yellowish and borne in compound flower clusters. The fruit is oval. It is 10 cm long by 7 cm wide. It is greenish when fresh.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. They occur in Mindanao, Tawi-tawi, Samar, Palawan and Mindanao in the Philippines. In southern China it grows between 140 and 1000 m altitude. In Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown by seeds.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In southern China plants flower in March and April and fruit in May and June.

NOTES

There are about 250 Cinnamomum species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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