PLANT FACT SHEET

Citrus microcarpa Bunge

GENUS *Citrus* **FAMILY** Rutaceae

COMMON NAMES Musk lime, Panama orange

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are sour so are used for drinks or pickled.

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It grows about 3-4 m tall. The branches are thorny. The leaves are slightly shiny and simple. The tip has a small notch. The leaf stalks have narrow wings. The flowers are small and white. They have 5 petals. The fruits are small. They are round and 2.5-4 cm across. They have a smooth thin skin. Fruit are green when young but turn yellow or orange when ripe. Each fruit has 6-8 segments. These often contain seeds.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. They grow naturally in sandy soil near the coast. At MARDI.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Trees can be grown from seed. Trees can be grown by cuttings and air layering.

Harvesting and Seed Production

The tree fruits all year round.

NOTES

There are 20 Citrus species. Several hybrids have been formed. This is probably a hybrid between Citrus reticulata and Citrus (Fortunella) japonica.

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