PLANT FACT SHEET

Salacia kraussii (Harvey) Harvey

GENUS *Salacia* **FAMILY** Celastraceae

COMMON NAMES Leatherplum

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are eaten raw. They are also used for jams and jellies.

DESCRIPTION

A small shrub. It can be a scrambler. It grows 1-3 m high. It can put up annual shoots from an underground stem or rhizome. The main stem has ridges at first. The leaves are alternate and with short stalks. The leaves are narrowly oval and shiny. The leaves vary in shape. They are 4-6 cm long. The flowers are yellow. The fruit are orange colour. There are several flowers in the axils of leaves. There are 2-16 with short stalks. The fruit is round and fleshy. It is 4-5 cm across. It is orange to yellow. It has a thin leathery skin and 2-3 large seeds. The fruit are edible.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. It grows in dry soil. It grows below 200 m above sea level. It grows in coastal scrub. It can grow in arid places.

NOTES

The roots have antimalarial properties.

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PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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

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