PLANT FACT SHEET

Lacmellea aculeata (Ducke) Monach.

GENUS *Lacmellea* **FAMILY** Apocynaceae

COMMON NAMES Prickly lacmellea

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Latex

The fruit pulp is eaten raw.
The latex is used instead of milk.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or tree. It grows 12-20 m tall. The trunk has 2 cm long black spines. The leaves are opposite. The flowers are at the ends of branches or in the axils of leaves. The stalks are forked. The fruit stalks are about 1 cm long. The fruit are pear shaped or round and 3.5 cm across. They are yellow or orange. There are prickles at the end. The pulp is edible. There are 1-3 seeds They are 1.5 cm long by 1 cm wide. They are brown.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It can grow in savanna or forests near rivers.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Guyana plants flower in July to October and fruit March, May and August.

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