PLANT FACT SHEET

Garcinia dulcis (Roxb.) Kurz.

GENUS *Garcinia* **FAMILY** Clusiaceae

COMMON NAMES Egg tree, Mundu mangosteen

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fleshy portion of the fruit is eaten raw. They are a bit acid. They can be cooked. They can be used to make jam. They are also used for drinks and candied or dried.

DESCRIPTION

A bushy tree up to 10-20 m high. It spreads 2-4 m wide. It has a short trunk. It has 4 angled yellow drooping branches. It has large leathery leaves 10-30 cm long and 4-14 cm wide. The leaves are opposite, smooth and somewhat oval in shape. Young leaves are pale green and older leaves are dark green. The leaves are shiny above and often hairy underneath. The leaf stalk is 2 cm long. Male and female flowers are separate. The flowers are white or greenish yellow and borne in small rounded clusters. Male flowers are very small. The flowers have a sour smell. The fruit is smooth, yellow and the size of a small orange but with a point at the end. It is 5-8 cm wide. It has a thin skin and 1 to 5 seeds inside. These are brown and 2.5 cm long. The pulp is yellow.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It suits the hot, wet tropical lowlands. They are common and widely distributed in the Philippines from northern Luzon to the southern part growing in primary forest at low and medium altitudes. It grows in coastal areas up to 500 m altitude. It is not particular as regards soil.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Trees are grown from seed. Seed need to be sown while fresh. Trees can be budded or grafted. Shield budding on fairly mature wood using large buds is best.

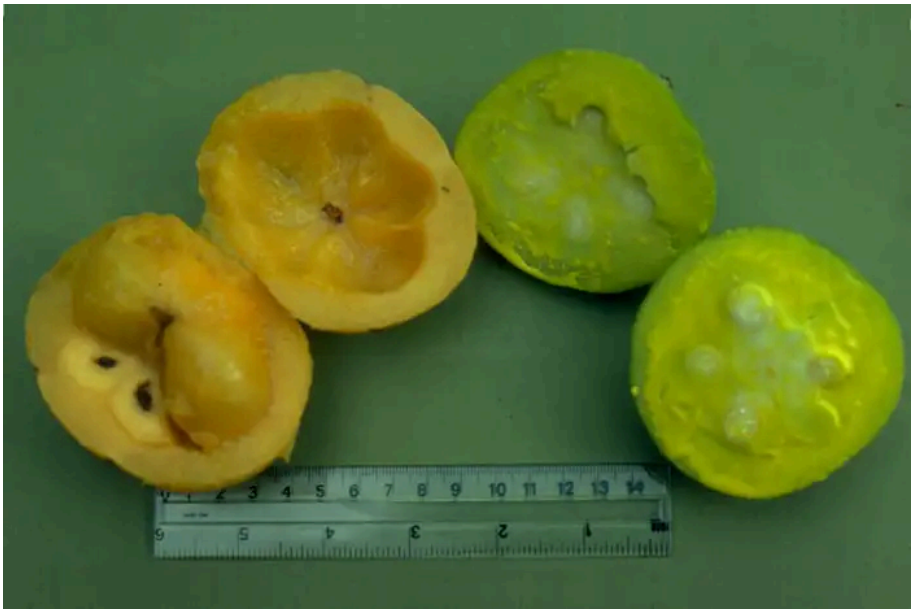
Harvesting and Seed Production

Fruit production is seasonal about Dec to May in the Southern Hemisphere.

NOTES

There are about 300 Garcinia species.
The leaves contain an alkaloid.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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