



PLANT FACT SHEET

Zanthoxylum asiaticum (L.) Appelhans, Groppo & J. Wen.

GENUS *Zanthoxylum* FAMILY Rutaceae

COMMON NAMES Cockspur orange, Climbing orange

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Fruit, Spice

The fruit are used for food flavouring. They have a pungency like pepper. They are crushed.

All parts of the plant including the leaves are cooked and can be used for flavouring.

The fruit are boiled to make soup.

The ripe fruit are pickled.

DESCRIPTION

A spiny and woody vine. It is a shrub that grows 2-20 m long. The prickles are curved. The leaves are alternate and have 3 leaflets. The leaflets are pointed at both ends. The leaf stalk is 2 cm long. The leaflets are 3-10 cm long by 1-2.5 cm wide. The flowers are small, greenish and borne in large compound flower arrangements. This is 7.5 cm long. Male and female flowers are separate. The fruit are small and borne in fairly large clusters. They can be 3 to 5 angled. The fruit are 5-7 mm across and orange. There are up to 7 seeds.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. Common throughout the islands of the Philippines in secondary forest and virgin forest at low altitudes but up to 1700 m. In Yunnan in China it grows up to 1500 m above sea level. In Swaziland it grows in the low veld only. It grows in the lowlands. In Sichuan. It occurs in the Western Ghats in India.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

NOTES

There is only one *Toddalia* species.

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