PLANT FACT SHEET

Melastoma sanguineum Sims

GENUS *Melastoma* **FAMILY** Melastomataceae

COMMON NAMES Police dog tongue

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

DESCRIPTION

A shrub. It grows 1-2 m high. The branches are loose and densely yellow. The leaves are opposite and oval or sword shaped. They are 10-14 cm long by 3-5 cm wide. They taper to the tip and are rounded at the base. There are bristles underneath. The flowers are purple-red. They are large and showy with 1-3 at the ends of branches. The fruit are half round and 1-2 cm long and wide. They have curved bristles. They split open on one side. They are red inside with many seeds.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows on open slopes and low hills below 400 m above sea level in southern China.

REFERENCES

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/c6dbebc2-bbbf-4522-afd3-b64a3eea5c6c