PLANT FACT SHEET

Aglaia elliptica (C. DC.) Blume

GENUS *Aglaia* **FAMILY** Meliaceae

COMMON NAMES Malatumbaga

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fleshy portion of the fruit is eaten. It has a flavour like cranberry.

DESCRIPTION

A large tree. It grows up to 25 m tall. The trunk is 50 cm across. It has buttresses. The leaves are alternate and compound. They have 5-7 pairs of leaflets and one at the end. They are smooth and pointed at both ends. They can have rusty hairs. The flowers are small, yellow and borne in large compound flower clusters. The fruit is an almost round berry. It is red. It has a hard outer covering. It is 2-2.5 cm across. It has one seed. The layer around the seed or aril is edible.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in forests up to a medium altitude. It grows from sea level to 2,000 m above sea level. In Thailand it grows between 30-1,400 m above sea level. It is often in swamp forest and places that are occasionally flooded. It is common and widely distributed throughout the Philippines.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Thailand flowering is most common between April to July and fruiting March to July.

NOTES

The bark and leaves are used in medicine. There are about 104 Aglaia species. They occur in Asia and the Pacific.

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