PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Erythroxylum cuneatum* (Miq.) Kurz.

**GENUS** *Erythroxylum* **FAMILY** Erythroxylaceae

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Leaves

The leaves are used as a vegetable. They are astringent. They are used in vegetable soup.

## DESCRIPTION

A small or large tree. They can grow 2.5 to 30 m high. The trunk is up to 35-55 cm across. The small branches are angular. The leaves vary in size and shape. They can be broadly or narrow oval or oblong. They are 5-11 cm long by 2-3 cm wide. They are dark green and shiny above and dull light green underneath. The midrib is sunken above and prominent underneath. The flowers are in clusters of 1-8. They are white to light green. The fruit is fleshy and oval. It is red and 7-12 mm long by 3-6 mm wide.

## HABITAT

A tropical plant. It can grow behind sandy beaches or on rocky shores. It can also grow in a range of other locations including peat forest and limestone ridges up to 900 m above sea level.

## NOTES

There are about 250 Erythroxylum species.
It has various medical benefits.

## REFERENCES


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