PLANT FACT SHEET

Anisophyllea laurina R. Br. ex Sabine

GENUS *Anisophyllea* **FAMILY** Anisophylleaceae

COMMON NAMES Monkey apple

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are used for preserves.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or tree. It grows 5-16 m high. The leaves are small, alternate and sword shaped. They are 7-15 cm long by 3-7 cm wide. The side veins are at right angles to the midrib and parallel. The flowers have 4 large fleshy petals. The flowers are small and greenish. They are on spikes in the axils of the leaves. The fruit are yellow but become red on the sunny side.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in secondary jungle often in upland areas in West Africa.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be cut back and will regenerate from the roots.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Sierra Leone flowering is November to December and fruit ripen April to May. There are 240 dried fruit per kilogram.

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