PLANT FACT SHEET

Symphonia globulifera L. f.

GENUS *Symphonia* **FAMILY** Clusiaceae

COMMON NAMES Boar wood, Hog gum tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 15-30 m tall. The trunk is straight. The crown has short horizontal branches. The bark is smooth and dark brown. The branches have grooves along them. The leaves are leathery. The leaf blade is 5-12 cm long by 2-4 cm wide. It tapers to the tip and is wedge shaped at the base. Leaves are paler underneath. The flowers occur as many together. They are at the ends of short branches. The petals are bright red or yellow. The fruit is a berry 15-35 mm across. It is red but turns brown. It has 1-2 seeds. The seeds are 15-20 mm long and flattened.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in muddy forest swamps. It is along rivers and on the edges of forests. In Nigeria it is recorded at 600-1,800 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds. They are put in hot water that is then allowed to cool and they are soaked overnight. The seeds can be planted directly or put in a nursery and transplanted.

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