PLANT FACT SHEET

Clerodendrum floribundum R.Br.

GENUS *Clerodendrum* **FAMILY** Lamiaceae

COMMON NAMES Thurkoo, Bleeding heart, Lollybush, Smooth Clerodendrum, Smooth Spiderbush

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Roots

The roots are boiled and eaten.
(The fruit are not edible.) Some claim the ripe fruit are eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or small tree. It grows 1.5-4 m high. Plants often sucker freely. The leaves vary in size and shape. They are often oval. The blade is 6-17 cm long by 3.5-13 cm wide. The leaves have a long stalk and pointed tip. The flowers are white and like tubes with stamens sticking out the end. They are 2-7 cm long in open groups which are 15-25 cm across. They are produced towards the ends of branches. The fruit is a round dry capsule with lobes. There is a red star like calyx at the base. The fruit is 1-1.5 cm across. It is red and turns black when ripe. There are several varieties.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It suits tropical, subtropical and warm temperate regions. It grows in coastal areas on sand dunes. In tropical Queensland it grows from sea level to 1200 m altitude. It can grow in arid places. It suits hardiness zones 10-12.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed. They can also be grown from cuttings and root suckers. They can be pruned to shape the plant.

NOTES

There are about 400 Clerodendrum species.

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