PLANT FACT SHEET

Physalis pruinosa L.

GENUS *Physalis* **FAMILY** Solanaceae

COMMON NAMES Ground cherry, Husk tomato, Strawberry tomato

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The ripe fruit is eaten after the husk is removed. It can be eaten fresh or used in desserts. It can be used for jams, conserves, pies, sauces and cakes.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It is like tomatillo but smaller. Plants grow 30 cm tall. The leaves are oval or heart shaped. The flowers are yellow-white. The flowers have both sexes and are self-fertile. Plants are pollinated by insects but one plant will set fruit. The fruit are orange-red. They are 1.5-2 cm across.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. They do best in full sun or light shade. Plants are sensitive to frost. It needs a fertile soil.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are easily grown from seed. Plants should be spaced 60-90 cm apart.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Plants produce in the first year.

NOTES

There are about 75-100 Physalis species. Physalis pubescens and Physalis pruinosa have been confused. See Taxon refrence. Physalis pubescens in in North America.

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PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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