PLANT FACT SHEET

Xylopia aromatica (Lam.) Mart.

GENUS *Xylopia* **FAMILY** Annonaceae

COMMON NAMES Fragrant xylopia, Guyana unona, Monkey pepper

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds - spice

The seeds have a taste and smell like black pepper. They can be used as a substitute for black pepper in cooking.

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It grows about 7 m high. The branches are long and hang down. The leaves are narrow and pointed. They are shiny above and bluish underneath. The side veins are very faint. The leaves are regularly spaced and in a flat plane. The flowers have 2 rings of petals of different sizes. The flowers are white. The fruit have several lobes arranged like a cluster. The skin is light green. The flesh is red. The seeds are black.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows naturally in the scrub lands of Brazil. It grows in disturbed secondary forests and along roadside. In Colombia it grows between 40-1,220 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed.

NOTES

It has anticancer properties.

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