PLANT FACT SHEET

Cissus aralioides (Welw. ex Bak.) Planch.

GENUS *Cissus* **FAMILY** Vitaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds

The seeds are cooked and eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A large creeper. It can be 25 m long. It is woody at the base. It climbs to the top of the forest canopy. The stems are green and succulent. The leaf stalks are slender and fleshy. They are 9-12 cm long. The leaves are compound with 5 leaflets. The leaflets are oblong and 5-8 cm long by 3-4 cm wide. There are small teeth along the edge and a point at the tip. The flowers are in compound groups. There can be 10-12 flowers in a group. The flowers are greenish white. The fruit is a round berry 2.5 cm across. It is bluish-purple and has one seed.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in deciduous forest and on the edge of the jungle.

NOTES

There are about 200-350 Cissus species. There are about 75 species in tropical 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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