PLANT FACT SHEET

Solanum lycocarpum A. St.-Hil.

GENUS *Solanum* **FAMILY** Solanaceae

COMMON NAMES Fruit for wolves

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The ripe fruit are eaten fresh or used in jams and jellies.
CAUTION: The fruit is poisonous when unripe.

DESCRIPTION

A medium sized prickly shrub. It can have many branches. It grows to 3-5 m tall. The branches are twisted and thorny. They are fragile. The trunk is twisted and 15-30 cm across. The bark is thick and cracked. The leaves are large and withered. The edges are wavy. Leaves have white hairs which shine in the sunlight. The flowers can occur singly or in groups at the ends of branches. The fruit is yellow and resembles a tomato. The pulp has a strong smell. Fruit are 8-15 cm across.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It is native to scrub land in Brazil. It grows in most areas of Brazil.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

The ripe fruit are harvested and put into a plastic bag to soften and allow the seeds to be removed. They are washed in running water. Fresh seed are planted and they germinate in 3-4 weeks. Seedlings can be transplanted into the field in 4-5 months.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It is fast growing.

NOTES

The fruit is eaten by the maned wolf.

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