PLANT FACT SHEET

Sonneratia caseolaris (L.) Engl.

GENUS *Sonneratia* **FAMILY** Lythraceae

COMMON NAMES Firefly mangrove, Red-flowered Pornupan mangrove

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Leaves, Spice

The fruit is cooked and eaten as food and used for vinegar. It has a sour taste.
The young fruit are used for flavouring chutnies and curries.
The ripe fruit can be eaten raw or cooked. They are also used for juice. The seeds and skin are removed. In Indonesia fruit are used to make syrup called Pedada.

DESCRIPTION

A medium sized tree. It grows 6-20 m tall. The trunk is swollen at the base when young. The trunk can be 30 cm across. Air roots are up to 60 cm long. The smallest branches are jointed and 4 angled. The leaves are thick, leathery and narrow. They are opposite. They are 5-13 cm long by 2-5 cm wide. The flowers occur singly. The petals are red and narrow and fall off very early. The outer case of sepals is green. The fruit are hard, round and pressed down at the tip. They are 4 cm long by 7.5 cm wide. They contain many seeds.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in tropical places in Asia. It grows in swamps of brackish water. They occur along the seashore and along the upper stretches of tidal streams throughout the Philippines. It grows in wetlands. It grows in mangroves. It can grow up to 900 m above sea level. In Townsville palmetum.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

NOTES

Also put in the family Sonneratiaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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