PLANT FACT SHEET

Synaptolepis kirkii Oliv.

GENUS *Synaptolepis* **FAMILY** Thymelaeaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The pulp of the fruit is sweet and is eaten fresh as a snack.

DESCRIPTION

A small shrub. It can be a climber. It grows 4 m long. The branches twine around other plants. The bark is black with lighter breathing pores. The stems come from tuberous swollen roots. The leaves are opposite and oval. They are 2-5 cm long. The base is rounded. The flowers are white or cream. They have a sweet scent at night. There can be one or more flowers in the axils of leaves. The fruit are berries. They are 1 cm long. They are orange when ripe. The seed has a black lobe at the end.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. In Tanzania it grows between sea level and 900 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Tanzania, fruit are collected from March to May.

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PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/ee659e09-ab4e-4685-bdb8-4d644840b828