PLANT FACT SHEET

Psydrax parviflora subsp. rubrocostata (Robyns) Bridson

GENUS *Psydrax* **FAMILY** Rubiaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The ripe fruit are eaten fresh as a snack.

DESCRIPTION

An evergreen shrub or tall tree. It can grow 2 to 27 m tall. The trunk can be fluted. The bark is light grey to brown and slightly cracked. It has an almond smell when cut. The leaves are opposite and oval. They are well spaced along the stem. They are 5-15 cm long and have a pointed tip. The flowers are small and cream to white coloured. They are in dense stalked heads up to 6 cm across. There can be 20-100 flowers. The fruit are round or with 2 lobes and 5-8 mm long by 8-14 mm wide. They are soft and black. There are 1-2 seeds.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. In Tanzania it grows between sea level and 2,800 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown by seeds.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Tanzania fruit are collected from January to May.

REFERENCES

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