PLANT FACT SHEET

Malpighia coccigera L.

GENUS *Malpighia* **FAMILY** Malpighiaceae

COMMON NAMES Barbados holly, Miniature holly

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are eaten fresh. They are also used in tarts, jellies, and marmalades.

DESCRIPTION

A small evergreen shrub. The bark is light coloured. It grows 75 cm high and 75 cm wide. The leaves are 25 mm long and dark glossy green. They have deep teeth and sharp prickles. The flowers are pink to mauve. The fruit is small and red-purple when ripe. They are 6-12 mm wide.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows naturally in the West Indies. It needs moderate moisture. It needs an average, well-drained soil. It can grow in some shade. It suits hardiness zones 10-12.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown from cuttings or seed. It makes a good hedge plant.

NOTES

There are 40 Malpighia species.

PICTURES

Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/f825e5d5-3e0f-490e-b558-8c35427a9de0