



PLANT FACT SHEET

Deinbollia borbonica Scheff.

GENUS *Deinbollia* FAMILY Sapindaceae

COMMON NAMES Soap berry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

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

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or small tree. It grows between 1-7 m high. The trunk is not branched. The leaves are 30 cm long. There are 3-8 stalks of leaflets and the small leaflets are 4 mm long. The main leaflets are 5-14 cm long by 2-5 cm wide. They are narrowly oval. There are 14 pairs of side veins. The flowering cluster can be 45 cm long. The flowers are small and white and separately male and female along branched heads. The fruit occur in groups of 1-3. The fruit is 12 mm long and 10 mm wide. It is oval. There are seeds in the white flesh.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in open woodland on sandy soils. It grows in the lowlands. It is common in coastal areas of Kenya. In Tanzania it grows from sea level to 1,000 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can easily be grown from seeds.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Fruit are collected from September to December.

NOTES

There are 30-40 *Deinbollia* species.

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