PLANT FACT SHEET

Eugenia axillaris (Sw.) Willd.

GENUS *Eugenia* **FAMILY** Myrtaceae

COMMON NAMES Black cherry, White stopper

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The pulp of the ripe fruit is eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or small tree. It grows 5 m tall. It keeps its leaves throughout the year. The leaves are oval and dull green. They are more pale underneath. They can be 8 cm long. The flowers are white and have 4 lobed petals. These are in small tight clusters. The fruit are round and smooth. They are purple to black when ripe. They are 12 mm across.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in wet forests. It grows in sandy coastal areas. It can grow in a variety of soils. Once established it can tolerate drought. In Puerto Rico it grows up to 800 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown from seeds or cuttings. It can be grown as a hedge.

NOTES

There are about 550 Eugenia species. They are mostly in tropical and subtropical South America.

PICTURES

Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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