



PLANT FACT SHEET



Use with caution

This plant can be harmful if it is eaten raw, in large amounts or without the right preparation. Read the whole fact sheet before use.

Diospyros lycioides subsp. guerkei (Kuntze) De Winter

GENUS *Diospyros* FAMILY Ebenaceae

COMMON NAMES Quilted bluebush

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

Caution: Reports vary as to how edible the fruit are.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or small tree. It grows 1-4 m tall. It can have several stems. These have many branches. The branches are grey. The young twigs have soft hairs. The leaves are alternate and crowded at the ends of branches. They are broadly sword shaped. They are 3-9 cm long by 1-3 cm wide. They are olive green above and more pale underneath. The veins are sunken above and raised under the leaf. Male and female flowers are on separate trees. The flowers are in clusters in the axils of the leaves and hang down. The fruit are round and 2 cm across. They contain 1 to 6 seeds.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. It grows in the understorey on the edges of forests and along river valleys. It can tolerate drought but grows better with moisture. It is cold hardy.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

It is reasonably fast growing.

REFERENCES

Schmidt, E., Lotter, M., & McClelland, W., 2007, Trees and shrubs of Mpumalanga and Kruger National Park. Jacana Media p 514

PROVIDED BY Food Plants International

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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ONLINE FACT SHEET <https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/ff9c4349-88f0-48a1-a933-1afe4f18fba0>