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Dovyalis caffra

[Synonyms : *Aberia caffra*, *Doryalis caffra*]

KEI APPLE is an evergreen shrub or tree. Native to East Africa and South Africa it has small, greenish-cream flowers.

It is also known as Dingaan's apple, Dingaan's apricot, Kaffir apple, *Kaiyaba* (Kikuyu), Kau apple, *Keiapfel* (German), Kel apple, and Umkokolo.

Bees are attracted to the nectar.

Caffra is a corruption of Arabic *kafir* (pagan, unbeliever) meaning 'of or from South Africa'.

The ripe fruit is used domestically in preserves, jams and jellies, and unripe in pickles.

Kei apple is a familiar sight as hedging in eastern and southern Africa.

The plant is said to have been introduced to England in 1838.