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Eugenia brasiliensis

[Synonyms : *Eugenia bracteolaris*, *Eugenia dombeyana*, *Eugenia dombeyi*, *Eugenia filipes*, *Myrtus dombeyi*, *Stenocalyx brasiliensis*]

BRAZIL CHERRY is an evergreen shrub or tree. Native to Peru and southern Brazil it has small fragrant white flowers with about 100 yellow-tipped white stamens.

It is also known as *Bois de nèfle* (French), Brasil cherry, *Cerisier du Brésil* (French), *Eŭgenio Brazila* (Esperanto), Grumichama (Brazilian, English), *Grumiksamo* (Esperanto), *Grumiŝamo* (Esperanto), *Grumixameira* (Brazilian), and Red fleshed grumichama.

Brasiliensis means 'of or from Brazil'.

The crimson-black berries with their bilberry-like flavour (which are cultivated widely in southern Brazil) are eaten raw or cooked and sweetened – and they are also made into pies, preserves and jams.

The tree was introduced to Singapore in 1888 and it is grown in south-eastern Asia for its edible fruit.

Apart from being grown naturally as an ornamental plant, brazil cherry has also been cultivated on a miniature scale by bonsai enthusiasts.

Medicinally, a leaf or bark infusion has been recommended by local herbalists to treat fluid retention or to ease rheumatism.