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Spondias dulcis

[Synonyms : *Evia dulcis*, *Spondias cytherea*]

GOLDEN APPLE is a semi-deciduous tree. Native to the Pacific (particularly the Philippines) it has tiny greenish-white flowers.

It is also known as Ambarella (English, Singhalese), Brazil plum, Great hog plum, Hog plum, Jewish plum, Jew's plum, *Kedondong* (Malay), *Ma-kok ferang* (Thai), Otaheite apple, Otaheite apple, *Pomme cythère* (French), *Tahitiapfel* (German), Tahiti apple, Tahitian quince, *Vi* (Samoan, Tongan), and *Wi* (Fijian).

Dulcis is Latin (sweet, pleasant, delightful).

The small pale yellow or greyish-orange fruit are not only eaten raw but can also be enjoyed stewed or made into jam or chutney and soup. These fruit make a refreshing drink and in Guatemala they are converted into a kind of cider. Unripe fruit are used for pickles and curries.

In South America the wood has been used in the past for making matches.

Medicinally, the fruits are used in Polynesia to make a porridge [with cassava (*Manihot esculenta*) tubers and coconut milk (*Cocos nucifera*)] that is taken by mothers before childbirth.