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Spondias purpurea

[Synonyms : *Spondias cirouella*, *Spondias crispula*, *Spondias dulcis*, *Spondias mexicana*, *Spondias mombin*, *Spondias myrobalanus*, *Spondias purpurea* var. *munita*, *Warmingia pauciflora*]

SPANISH PLUM is a semi-deciduous tree. Native to tropical America and the West Indies (including Barbados) it has small pale yellow flowers.

It is also known as *Acaiba* (Brazilian), *Bala* (Costa Rican), *Cajá* (Brazilian), *Ciruella* (Spanish), Fiks plum, Gully plum, *Hobo* (Mexican), *Hoeboe* (Surinamese), Hog plum, Jamaican plum, *Jobito* (Panamanian), *Jobo*, *Jobo blanco* (Colombian), *Jobo corronchoso* (Venezuelan), *Mombin* (French), *Pau da tapera* (Brazilian), Purple mombin, Red mombin, *Rote Mombinpflaume* (German), Santa Rosa plum, *Sineguélas* (Filipino/Tagalog), *Monben* (Creole), *Spondias*, *Ubo* (Peruvian), West Indian plum, and Yellow mombin.

Warning – the fruit can cause stomach-ache if eaten in large quantities.

Purpurea is Latin (purple-coloured).

Spanish plum was introduced to the Philippines by Spanish settlers.

The small yellow or purple fruit are eaten cooked.

The tree is often cultivated as hedging.

Its pale brown wood has been used for general carpentry and manufacturing plywood. It has also been made into parts of furniture, and boxes and crates.