



Agatelang *Eugenia palumbis*

Native Plants of Guam

Agatelang is a shrub that is naturally found only in limestone forests and cliffs in the Mariana islands. It may grow up to 9 feet tall and occurs on limestone forest edges, in the forest understory, or on terraces near the coast.

Other Common Names: Agatelang

Synonyms: None

Family Name: Myrtaceae

Plant Appearance

Distinctive feature: Young leaves are coppery. The bright red fruit usually occurs singly or in pairs.

Leaf

Shape: Elliptic-ovate, petiolate

Arrangement: Opposite

Type: Compound

Flower

Size: 0.08-0.20 in. diameter with four petals

Color: Petals are white

Shape: Cross-shaped (cruciform) with four petals at right angle to one another

Arrangement: Solitary in the leaf axils or a few together with fine stamens growing from the center

Flowering period: May-June

Habit

Typical height: 6-10 ft.

Ave. crown radius: 4 ft.

Fruit

Type: Drupe, fleshy fruit

Size: 0.4 in. diameter, round

Color: Bright red when mature

Number of seeds: 1-2

Edible: Fruits are eaten fresh.



Agatelang flower^a.



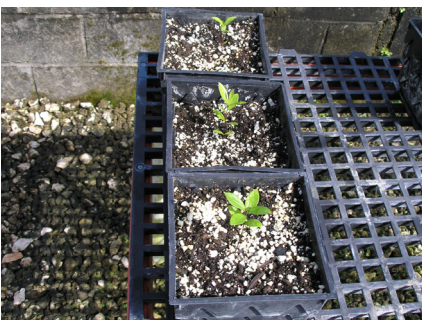
Agatelang leaf^b.



Agatelang fruit^c.



Agatelang seed^a.



Agatelang seedling^a.

Growing Your Own

PROPAGATION

Form: Seed

Seed collection: Collect mature fruits and dry them.

Seed treatment: Not applicable

Germination time: 1-3 months

Planting depth: No deeper than 1.2 in.

Pre-planting recommendations:

- Wait for root system to fill a 1-gal pot.
- Ensure shoot growth is at least 1 ft. above pot height and no taller than 2 ft. and ensure girth is at least 1/2 in. in diameter.

Special hints: Ensure adequate water and fertilize as needed.

Pollinators: Bees

Production Conditions

pH value: 6.8-7.5

Water: Moderate

Salt tolerance: Moderate

Wind tolerance: High

Soil characteristics: Moist, sandy loam

Light: Sunny to half-shaded areas

Space requirement: 6 ft.

Growth rate: 1-3 ft. per year

Growth direction: Upward

Fertilizer: Complete fertilizer

Pruning: Agatelang may be shaped or used in hedges.

Risks

Near surface roots: Depends on the location. For landscape areas, the roots can go deep.

Limb breakage: Low

Special considerations: None

Pests: The ohī'a rust, *Puccinia psidii*, infects young leaf tissue that causes stunting and shoot dieback. Bright yellow-orange pustules develop on the leaf tissue until the tissue dies.

How to Use This Plant

Agatelang has hard, strong wood, which was traditionally used for small lumber construction and tool handles. It is a slow growing plant but can produce lots of cherries.

Agroforestry: Ornamental, hedge

Wildlife: Food for birds and wildlife

References and Resources

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Notes

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