

Achacha *Garcinia humilis*



Description:

Achachairu is related to the mangosteen. They are also called Achachas and they are tangy and refreshing with a delicate subtle sweetness, a fine balance between sweetness and acidity.

Fruit should be picked mature as it does not ripen further on storage. Originating from the Bolivian part of the Amazon basin in South America, the Bolivian name of the fruit is Achachairu and translated means honey kiss. The very attractive tree is pyramidal like that of the bakuri but smaller; is equally rich in yellow latex. The tree grows wild in the state of Rio de

Janeiro in southeastern Brazil and adjacent Paraguay; is rarely cultivated. It blooms in December and matures its fruit in January and February

Renowned for its rich antioxidant content and unique nutrient composition, folate, potassium and vitamin C makes it an excellent addition to your fruit bowl.

The skin of the fruit makes an excellent thirst quencher that provides a healthy dose of beta carotene, hydroxycitrate acid (HCA), arginine and other minerals.

Climate

Tropical, Subtropical

Temperatures

Can it Handle Frosts?

Likes Temps above 41 degrees F

Plant habit

Pyramidal shape; small evergreen tree

Growth rate

Fairly slowly

Max Height (when in the ground with good conditions)

+20 feet

Trunk/bark/branches

New branches have a somewhat angular growth

USDA hardiness zones

10a, 10b and 11

Origin

South America: Argentina, Paraguay, eastern Brazil, Bolivia, Peru, French Guiana. Mainly found in secondary forests, by rivers, floodplains, coastal moist broad-leaved forests etc.

Flowers

Inflorescence: male and hermaphrodite flowers. Achachairu is self pollinating.

Time to Fruit/Flower/Harvest

3 Years average

Water Requirements

Moderate Watering in well drained soil for best health

Sun or Shade

Best in bright filtered light but can be grown in full sun (Sun: 80%-100%) Only after the tree is a few feet tall and has been acclimated to full sun gradually!

Preferred Soil Type

Moist with good drainage around woodlands, wet forests near the coast of Panama. Prefers a slightly acidic soil high in organic matter.

Soil pH

Neutral (6.6 pH)

Fruiting/Harvest Months

January, February, March, April, December