

# A'ABANG

**Botanical Name:** *Eugenia reinwardtiana*

**Common Name:** Cedar bay cherry

**Native range:** Malaya, Moluccas, and some Pacific Islands including the Marianas



**Description:** A'abang is a small-to-medium sized tree (up to 20 ft. tall) that grows in the understory of limestone forests. The leaves are green-to-dark-green and somewhat pointed on both ends. Its flowers are white with four petals and has numerous stamens. Its fruit are yellow-to-red colored containing one large seed.

**Uses and cultural significance:** The fruits are edible but not flavorful, they are eaten by birds and other animals. The wood is hard and strong and has been used for tool handles, fence posts, walking sticks, coconut husking stakes, and rice-pounding pestles. It is salt tolerant and can be planted near the ocean.

## How To Grow and Care For This Plant

Sun	Water	Soil	Fertilizer	Pests+Diseases
Full or partial sun.	Water a low to moderate amount. Let soil dry out between waterings.	It is found in limestone forests and prefers well-draining soils with a pH of 6-7.5.	Once every two weeks during the growing season with a balanced dilute fertilizer such as 15-15-15 or lower.	Black twig borer.  Guava rust ( <i>Puccinia psidii</i> ).

**Propagation**

A'abang is propagated by seed and cuttings. Seed germination occurs 1-3 months after sowing. The slow-growing tree may take up to 1 year to outplant.

**Resources:**

- Raulerson, L. and A. Rinehart. 2021. *Trees and shrubs of the Northern Marianas Islands*. University of Guam Press, Guam. 75p.
- Borja, K. Guam Department of Agriculture Forestry & Soil Resources Division. (2017). Forestry Native Plants of Guam Series: A'abang.
- Wikicommons (photo sources)

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