YOGA

Botanical Name: *Elaeocarpus joga*   **Common Name:** Blue marble tree
Native range: Mariana Islands and Palau

Description: Yoga is a tall tree (up to 60 ft.) that grows in open areas and forests in limestone deposits. Its flowers have feathery white petals wich develop in clusters. The leaves are an attractive green which turn red before fallings. Yoga produces marble-sized fruits that turn from green to blue as it matures.

Uses and cultural significance: Yoga is a beautiful tree that can be grown as an ornamental or used in afforestation. It provides a home for epiphytes such as orchids and ferns, and its fruits are a favorite food for birds such as doves.

How To Grow and Care For This Plant

Sun	Water	Soil	Fertilizer	Pests+Diseases
Full or partial sun.	Water frequently especially while the tree is young.	Prefers well-drained, moist soils with a pH of 6.5-7.5. It can grow in sandy, loamy, and clay soils.	For outplants, apply small amounts of complete fertilizer once every 3-4 months for 1 year.	Aphids, mealybugs, scales, caterpillars, and leaf cutter bee.

Propagation	Propagate Yoga by seeds. Collect healthy and mature fruits, then dry and crack open to obtain the seeds. Although it may also be that passage through a bird's digestive system is necessary (or at least very helpful) for seed viability.

Resources:
- Raulerson, L. and A. Rinehart. 2021. *Trees and shrubs of the Northern Marianas Islands.* University of Guam Press, Guam. 28p.
- Cruz, F.J., Cruz, J., McConnell, J. U.S. Forest Service: Native Plants P00-1. (2000). *Eleocarpus joga*.
- Wikicommons (photo sources)