

Comparative Seed Manual: ANNONACEAE

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This seed manual consists of photos and relevant information on plant species housed in the Integrative Subsistence Laboratory at the Anthropology Department, University of California, Santa Barbara. The impetus for the creation of this manual was to enable UCSB graduate students to have access to comparative materials when making in-field identifications. Most of the plant species included in the manual come from New World locales with an emphasis on Eastern North America, California, Mexico, Central America, and the South American Andes.

Published references consulted¹:

1998. Moerman, Daniel E. *Native American ethnobotany*. Vol. 879. Portland, OR: Timber press.

2009. Moerman, Daniel E. *Native American medicinal plants: an ethnobotanical dictionary*. OR: Timber Press.

2010. Moerman, Daniel E. *Native American food plants: an ethnobotanical dictionary*. OR: Timber Press.

Species included herein:

Annona cherimola

Annona reticulata

¹ **Disclaimer:** Information on relevant edible and medicinal uses comes from a variety of sources, both published and internet-based; this manual does **NOT** recommend using any plants as food or medicine without first consulting a medical professional.

Annona cherimola



Family: Annonaceae

Common Names: Custard apple, Momona, Kelemoio, Chermoya

Habitat and Growth Habit: This subtropical species can be found in the Andean valleys of Central and Southern America. Notably, some of the regions include Ecuador, Colombia, and Peru. The seeds were also brought from Mexico to Carpentaria, California in 1871.

Human Uses: The plant produces a sweet and edible fruit. The seeds can be crushed to be used as insecticide against lice and parasites invading the skin. Additionally, the seeds have been used as an emetic and laxative when crushed and eaten. The roots, when ground up, have also been used traditionally to treat respiratory problems. Recent studies show that *Annona cherimola* is a great source of acetogenins, which are antiparasitic and have cytotoxic properties.

Sources Consulted:

<http://www.tradewindsfruit.com/content/cherimoya.htm>, accessed February 8, 2019.

<http://www.crfg.org/pubs/ff/cherimoya.html>, accessed February 8, 2019.

<https://www.cabi.org/isc/datasheet/5806>, accessed February 8, 2019.

Annona reticulata



Family: Annonaceae

Common Names: Custard apple, Wild-sweetsop, Bull's heart, Bullock's Heart

Habitat and Growth Habit: This plant is native to the Caribbean. It has found in Central America, Africa, and Asia.

Human Uses: The fruits are edible and can be eaten raw. The seeds have been known to be used as insecticide but can also be used to create dark blue and black dyes. The medicinal properties vary. The root can be ingested to function as a fever reducer. When ingested as an unripe fruit, this plant can aid in intestinal issues as well as relief from diarrhea.

Sources Consulted:

Moerman 2010

<http://www.tradewindsfruit.com/content/custard-apple.htm>, accessed February 8, 2019.

<http://tropical.theferns.info/viewtropical.php?id=Annona+reticulata>, accessed February 8, 2019.