



APLOKATING *Psychotria mariana*

Christine B. Laurent and Joseph Tuquero

Cooperative Extension & Outreach, College of Natural & Applied Sciences, University of Guam

Aplokating is a small tree endemic to the Mariana Islands. It is commonly found in limestone forests and often grows as an understory plant.

Other Common Names: Aploghating, Aplohkateng, Aplokhating, Aplu kati, Gathemach

Synonyms: *Psychotria gaudichaudii*, *Psychotria rotundifolia*

Family Name: Rubiaceae

Plant appearance

Distinctive feature: The leaves are dark green, obovate, and scars can be seen along the branches. The flowers are white, shaped like a star. The fruits are red, pea-size, and grow in clusters.

Leaf

Shape: Slightly obovate

Arrangement: Opposite

Type: Simple

Flower

Size: About 0.12 in. long

Color: White

Shape: Stellar (star-shaped)

Arrangement: Usually occur in groups of three

Flowering period: Year-round

Habit

Typical height: Up to 25 ft.

Fruit

Type: Drupe

Size: 0.20-0.30 in. long

Color: From green, orange, red to purplish

Number of seeds: 1-2 seeds

Edible: Yes, likely eaten by wildlife



Aplokating flowers^a.

Growing your own

Form: Seeds and cuttings

Seed collection: Select seeds from healthy and mature fruits from the tree or ground.

Seed treatment: None

Germination time: Up to 1 month

Planting depth: No deeper than twice the size of the seed

Pre-planting: Seedlings from 1-gallon pots will be ready for transplant in 4-6 months after initial germination. Ensure shoot growth is at least 1 ft. above pot height, no taller than 2 ft., and ensure girth is at least 0.50 in. in diameter.

Special hints: Ensure adequate water and fertilize as needed up to 6-12 months after transplanting from pots



Aplokating leaves^a.

Production conditions

pH value: 6.5 -7.5

Water: Moderately-drained and not over-watered

Salt tolerance: Medium

Wind tolerance: Medium

Soil characteristics: Volcanic and limestone

Light: Full sun or shade

Space requirement: 8-15 ft.

Growth rate: 1-3 ft. per year

Growth direction: Upward

Fertilizer: For outplants, apply small amounts of complete fertilizer once every 3-4 months for 1 year.

Pruning: Prune dead branches. Prune as necessary for structure and crown thinning no more than 25 percent of plant every 4-6 months.

Risks

Near surface roots: Depends on depth of soil

Limb breakage: Low

Special considerations: None

Pests: Ungulates, wild insects, susceptible to fungal diseases

How to use this plant

Amahatyan is a fast-growing plant that is good for revegetation.

Agroforestry: Screen

Wildlife: Food source

Medicinal: Used for herbal medicine

Other uses: Fiber for fishing lines, cordage, brown dye (bark)



Aplokating seed^a.



Aplokating fruit^a.

Photo credits

a. Christine B. Laurent

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For further information

Forestry & Soil Resources Division Guam
Department of Agriculture
Phone: (671) 735-3949/51
Fax: (671) 734-0111
163 Dairy Rd, Mangilao, Guam 96913 <http://forestry.guam.gov/>

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Aplokating seedling^a.

This is a continuation of the first set of 9 Native Tree factsheets in collaboration with Guam Department of Agriculture and USDA which is found in this link: http://cnas-re.uog.edu/useful-cnas-documents-posters/?wpv_aux_current_post_id=3189&wpv_view_count=3187-TCPID3189&wpv_paged=2.

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