



OTOT

Discocalyx megacarpa

Christine B. Laurent and Joseph Tuquero

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

Otot is an endemic shrub in the Mariana Islands which has been observed in volcanic soils, but commonly found in limestone soils.

Other Common Names: Ottot, Otug

Synonyms: None

Family Name: Myrsinaceae

Plant appearance

Distinctive feature: The bright red fruits are edible and have a similar taste to that of tamarind. The branches are rounded, and the dark green leaves are bunched at the branch tips.

Leaf

Shape: Lanceolate

Arrangement: Alternate

Type: Simple

Flower

Size: About 0.50 in.

Color: Green with white hair-like structures extending on the sides

Shape: Round

Arrangement: Simple, spike

Flowering period: Year round

Habit

Typical height: Up to 6.5 ft.

Fruit

Type: Drupe

Size: About 0.40. in diameter

Color: Red

Number of seeds: 1

Edible: Yes



Otot flowers^a.

Growing your own

Form: Seed

Seed collection: Select seeds from healthy and mature fruits either on the plant or ground. Dry them.

Seed treatment: None

Germination time: Up to 6 months

Planting depth: No deeper than 0.80 in.

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 and 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.



Otot leaves^a.

Production conditions

pH value: 6.5-7.3 (neutral)

Water: High

Salt tolerance: Low

Wind tolerance: Medium

Soil characteristics: Limestone and clay

Light: Shade

Space requirement: 6-8 ft.

Growth rate: Up to 1 ft. a year

Growth direction: Upwards

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. Prune no more than 25 percent of plant every 4-6 months.



Otot fruit^a.

Risks

Near surface roots: Depends on the location. For landscape areas, the roots can go deep.

Limb breakage: Low

Special considerations: None

Pests: Unknown

How to use this plant

Agroforestry: Ornamental

Wildlife: Wildlife food

Medicinal: Unknown

Other uses: Unknown



Otot seed^a.

Photo credits

a. Christine B. Laurent

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to Jim Hollyer for his valuable contributions in the completion of this factsheet.

For further information

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

References

Raulerson, L. and A. Rinehart. 1991. Trees and Shrubs of the Northern Mariana Islands. Coastal Resources Management, Office of the Governor, CNMI. 120p.
<https://www.uog.edu/herbarium/discocalyx-megacarpa>



Otot 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.

In cooperation with



Published by the College of Natural & Applied Sciences (CNAS), University of Guam, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, under Dr. Lee S. Yudin, Director/Dean. University of Guam, CNAS, UOG Station, Mangilao, Guam 96923. Copyright 2019. For reproduction and use permission, contact cnascommunications@triton.uog.edu, (671) 735-2000. The University of Guam is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution providing programs and services to the people of Guam without regard to race, sex, gender identity and expression, age, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, disability, marital status, arrest and court record, sexual orientation, or status as a covered veteran. Find CNAS publications at CNAS-RE.uog.edu.