

**Name** Daun Sabong Sibuti  
(Sibuti Sabong Leaves)

**Country** Malaysia

**Date of registration:**  
7/7/2014



Source: MyIPO

#### Main characteristics/features

Sabong leaves, or the species *Gnetum Gnemon*, are also known as Bagok or Melinjo leaves. They are from a wild plant whose habitat is mainly in the hilly areas of Sarawak, such as Sibuti. The trees range from 1–10 metres in height and have a tap root system (*radix primaria*). The Sabong tree is woody, round in shape (*teres*) with a smooth surface (*laevis*) and sympodial branching. A Sabong leaf measures between 8–20 cm in length and 3–10 cm in width. When the leaf matures, its colour changes from evergreen to bronze with a tinge of dark green.

#### Geographical area

Sibuti subdistrict of Miri, Sarawak. Area: 842.47 km<sup>2</sup> – Density: 15.47/km<sup>2</sup> [2010]

#### Production/processing

There are two (2) types of leaves: the wide variety known as female Sabong and the tapered variety, male Sabong. Both varieties taste different. The Sabong tree also bears unisexual dioecious flowers, found on the panicle in the dichasium. The male flowers are the stamens bearing a row of ovules (female reproductive cells) on top. The Sabong tree also bears seeds. They are encased in a protective covering called the inner integument and also shrouded by the perigonium (the sepals and petals), which turn red when the seeds are ripe. The Sabong (female) tree has a thin bark but will produce seeds or nuts, which are about 2–4 cm in size. The seeds/nuts may be cooked, grilled or ground to make flour which can then be used to make *keropok* or crackers, which taste somewhat bitter. Sabong leaves are cooked as a vegetable dish, either as a sauce-based dish (boiled) or as a soup for mothers in confinement. They may also be used to wrap food. Sabong leaves are readily available in Sibuti, Sarawak, and are one of the attractions for tourists who come there, as Sabong leaves are seldom found in areas outside Sarawak.

#### Link between product and territory

These leaves found in abundance are known as Sabong leaves among the Iban community in Sibuti, Sarawak. Sabong leaves form one of the jungle plants that are traditionally eaten by the Iban community, particularly those locally. Sabong leaves and other jungle produce like Mendai leaves are sold in the Pasar Tamu markets.

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**Competent authority** Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia (MyIPO)

**GI rights holder/GI association** Sibuti Subdistrict Office

**Contact information** Tel. +60 85719002

**Type of product** Trees

**Control body**

**File number** GI2014-00017

**Websites**