

Name Sarawak Midin
Country Malaysia

Date of registration:
11/09/2014



Source: MyIPO and relevant partners

Main characteristics/features

Midin, also known as 'Miding', is a member of the Blechnaceae family and is botanically known as *Stenochlaena palustris* (Burm.f.) Bedd. It is a rhizomatous and epiphytic perennial, with its base rooted to the soil. Rhizome long-creeping, and usually climbing high up the tree. Fronds are variable in size, normally 25-85 cm in length and 9-30 cm in width with 4-15 pairs of pinnae. The fronds colour varies from light green to dark green or even different shades of red depending on the physical conditions present. The fern is commonly found growing in fresh water and peat swamp areas as well as in secondary jungle throughout Sarawak.

Geographical area

Midin or lemidin grows wild in Sarawak. It thrives in forest, rubber estates, oil palm plantations and riverbanks. In Sarawak it is found from the lowlands to mountains up to about 1 000 m above sea level.

Production/processing

The leaves or fronds are pinnate, i.e. divided into leaflets, and light green or red when young, maturing green. The young fronds are curled up like fiddleheads and are most succulent at this stage. Picking is easily done by snapping off the succulent fiddleheads with the fingers. For sale, the fern is normally picked in the evening and taken to the market for sale the next morning or sold to vendors who have stalls in the market. The product is divided into bundles of about 500gm each and each bundle is wrapped in a *Simpur* (*Dillenia suffruticosa*) leaf to keep fresh. Midin remains crunchy-succulent even when cooked, normally by frying with slices of garlic, dry shrimps or belacan (shrimp paste). More recently, it has been served as a green salad with vinegar, small dried shrimps or anchovy and slices of shallot, garlic and chilli. By itself, the fern is neutral in taste, hence easy to combine with other ingredients.

Link between product and territory

The plant spreads with vigorous shoots that run along the ground and climb up trees and other supports. It appears to be resistant to pests and diseases. Regeneration occurs naturally under the partial shade provided by adult plants. The Sarawak Department of Agriculture conducted fertiliser and shade trials in acid sulphate soils at Rampangi near Kuching in the mid-1990s. Both shaded and unshaded plants responded well when fertilisers were applied to the drained soils. The crop was harvested at two-weekly intervals, but mortality was high, due probably to over-exposure to sunlight or to insufficient soil moisture, and replanting had to be carried out. Income was estimated at RM 8 000 to 9 000 per hectare. In a subsequent trial, the young plants were tied to wooden posts.

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GI rights holder/GI association Sarawak Information Technology And Resources Council (SITRC)
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Control body
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Websites