PLANT FACT SHEET

Geonoma interrupta (Ruiz. et Pav.) Mart.

GENUS *Geonoma* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

COMMON NAMES Chontilla

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: flower, Palm hearts, Cabbage, Seed, Fruit

The young tender flowers are cooked and eaten.
The palm heart is somewhat bitter but is eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A palm. It can have a single stem or up to 10 stems. They can be 0.1-7 m tall and 2-12 cm wide. They are light brown. There are 6-23 leaves and the blades are 2 m long. The leaflets may be regular or irregular. There are 3-41 curved leaflets on each side. There are usually narrow leaflets among broad leaflets. The flowering stalk is among the leaves. The flowering stalk has 1-3 orders or branching. There are 8-32 flowering branches. The lower ones are branched again and 9-25 cm long and 1-3 mm thick. The fruit are round and 3-6 mm long.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It is an understorey plant in lower mountain rainforest. It need well drained soil. It grows up to about 1000 m altitude.

NOTES

There are about 51 Geonoma species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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