PLANT FACT SHEET

Plectocomia elongata Mart. ex Blume

GENUS *Plectocomia* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

COMMON NAMES Giant rattan

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Palm heart, Cabbage, Shoots

The growing tip or shoot is cooked and eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A palm or rattan. It is robust and forms tufts or clumps. It can grow 25-50 m long. It climbs high into tree. The stems are 4-7 cm across and do not have thorns but the leaf sheaths do. The plant dies after flowering. The leaves are large and the leaf sheaths have prickles. The leaves are divided into leaflets along the stalk. They end in a long whip like structure. The leaf sheath in large and rough and has rows of prickles across it. Male and female flowers are separate on the same plant. The fruit are oval, scaly and have one seed. The seed is 2-3 cm across.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. In Indonesia it grows to 1,500 m above sea level. It grows in lowland and mountain rainforest up to 2,000 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

REFERENCES

Balick, M.J. and Beck, H.T., (Ed.), 1990, Useful palms of the World. A Synoptic Bibliography. Colombia p 457

Ochse, J. J. et al, 1931, Vegetables of the Dutch East Indies. Asher reprint. p 572

Priyadi, H., et al, 2010, Five hundred plant species in Gunung Halimun Salak National Park West Java. A checklist including Sundanese names, distribution and use. CIFOR, FFPRI, SLU p 19

Sukarya, D. G., (Ed.) 2013, 3,500 Plant Species of the Botanic Gardens of Indonesia. LIPI p 808

World Checklist of Useful Plant Species 2020. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/04a9961a-0f4b-4783-8a40-4444ee1fa3e5