PLANT FACT SHEET

Copernicia hospita Mart.

GENUS *Copernicia* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

COMMON NAMES Cuban copernicia

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are used as an occasional food harvested in forests.

DESCRIPTION

A palm. The stems are 4-8 m tall and 12-30 cm wide. Sometimes they can be swollen at the base and there can also be side shoots. The leaves are spreading and fan shaped. The leaf stalks are long. The leaves are round in outline. They are grey and waxy on the under-surface. They do not have thorns along the edge. The flowering stalk is longer than the leaves. The flowering branches are 0.5-3.5 cm long and 1-2.5 mm wide. They are hairy and the bracts are tube shaped. The fruit are round and 1.7-2 mm across. They are black. The plant varies a lot.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in Cuba in open savannah and woodland. It is at low elevations and often near mangroves.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

It is very slow growing.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

REFERENCES

Balick, M.J. and Beck, H.T., (Ed.), 1990, Useful palms of the World. A Synoptic Bibliography. Colombia p 362 (As Copernicia curbeloi), Hist. nat. palm. 3:243, t. 50a. 1838

http://www.ntbg.org/plants/plant details.php

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/0c39306f-0857-41b1-99b9-7c02dc5b859c