PLANT FACT SHEET

Calamus scipionum Lour.

GENUS *Calamus* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

COMMON NAMES Malacca cane plant, Semembu rattan

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Shoots, Fruit

The fruit are eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A stout cane or rattan. It grows in clusters. It is 1.2 m between the nodes. It is fairly thick. The stems are 5 cm across. They can be 50 m long. It is spiny with whip like flagella that enables it to climb. The leaflets are 40 cm long. The fruit are green or yellow. They are scaly.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in secondary forest up to 500 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds and suckers.

NOTES

There are 375-400 Calamus species. There are 175 species in tropical Asia. It contains alpha-tocopherol (Vitamin E) content of 32.87 mg per 100 g .

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