PLANT FACT SHEET

Couma guianensis Aubl.

GENUS *Couma* **FAMILY** Apocynaceae

COMMON NAMES Guianas couma

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Latex

The fruit pulp is eaten raw.
The latex is added to tea or coffee. It is also used for chewing gum.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 25 m tall. It is 7 m tall in dry places. The flowers are in flat topped groups. These occur singly or in pairs. The fruit is a round berry. They are 3-4 cm across. The fruit are green and turn red when ripe. The pulp is edible. There are 4-5 seeds. They are oval and 1 cm long.

HABITAT

A tropical plant It grows in the rainforest and savanna. They grow up to 500 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown by seed. Seed can be dried and stored.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Guyana plants flower before the leaves in August to September and produce fruit in September to October.

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