PLANT FACT SHEET

Garcinia smeathmannii (Planch. et Triana) Oliv.

GENUS *Garcinia* **FAMILY** Clusiaceae

COMMON NAMES False chewstick

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Fruit

The seeds are eaten fresh.

DESCRIPTION

A medium sized tree. It grows to 20 m high. The trunk is straight and the branches are horizontal. The trunk is 50 cm across. The bark is grey and rough. The leaves are 12-30 cm long and 5-10 cm wide. The clusters of flowers occur in pairs. There are 30 flowers in a cluster. The flowers are white or cream. The fruit are round and 2.5 cm across. The pulp and seeds are edible.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in forest. It is usually near streams in lowlands and uplands up to 1,300 m altitude in West Africa. In Nigeria it has been recorded up to 1,670 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Central African Republic flowers have been recorded from January to March.

NOTES

There are about 300 Garcinia species.

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