PLANT FACT SHEET

Cecropia palmata Willd.

GENUS *Cecropia* **FAMILY** Urticaceae

COMMON NAMES Snakewood tree, Trumpet tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Buds

The fruit are eaten. They have the flavour and texture of figs. They are eaten fresh or used as a filling for cakes. The young buds are eaten as a potherb.

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It grows 15 m tall. The branches are thick. The leaves are long and have blunt tips. They have 7-11 lobes. They are umbrella like and 60 cm across. They are dark green above and paler underneath. The fruit are shaped like long fingers.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It needs a humus-rich, well-drained soil. It needs a protected sunny position. It is damaged by drought or frost. It suits hardiness zones 10-12.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown by seeds or cuttings.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Trees grow rapidly.

NOTES

There are 100 Cecropia species. They grow in tropical America. It is also put in the Moraceae. Also put in the family Cecropiaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

REFERENCES

Barwick, M., 2004, Tropical and Subtropical Trees. A Worldwide Encyclopedic Guide. Thames and Hudson p 101

Bodkin, F., 1991, Encyclopedia Botanica. Cornstalk publishing, p 230

Burkill, I.H., 1966, A Dictionary of the Economic Products of the Malay Peninsula. Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Vol 1 (A-H) p 505

Etherington, K., & Imwold, D., (Eds), 2001, Botanica's Trees & Shrubs. The illustrated A-Z of over 8500 trees and shrubs. Random House, Australia. p 194

Facciola, S., 1998, Cornucopia 2: a Source Book of Edible Plants. Kampong Publications, p 75

Fouqué, A. 1972. Espèces fruitières d'Amérique tropicale. Institut français de recherches fruitierès outre-mer

Grandtner, M. M. & Chevrette, J., 2013, Dictionary of Trees, Volume 2: South America: Nomenclature, Taxonomy and Ecology. Academic Press p 113

Kermath, B. M., et al, 2014, Food Plants in the Americas: A survey of the domesticated, cultivated and wild plants used for Human food in North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. On line draft. p 202

Kunkel,

Sp. pl. 4(2):652. 1806

van Roosmalen, M.G.M., 1985, Fruits of the Guianan Flora. Utrecht Univ. & Wageningen Univ. p 298

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/17963e95-0786-419d-bbed-549cae0e31bf