PLANT FACT SHEET

Areca triandra Roxb. ex Buch.-Ham.

GENUS *Areca* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

COMMON NAMES Triandra palm

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Nuts, Cabbage, Palm heart

The nuts are eaten as a betel substitute.

DESCRIPTION

A clumping palm. It grows to 4.5 m high. It has several trunks and these have rings around them due to leaf scars. The stems are pale green. The leaf sheaths form a crown-shaft. It has feather-like leaves. The leaflets are both wide and narrow on the one leaf. The ends of the leaflets is jagged. They are deep green. The flowering stalk comes from below the crown-shaft. The male and female flowers are separate but on the same plant. The flowers are pale coloured and have a strong lemon perfume. The fruit are orange-red when ripe and 2.5 cm long. The seed is oval but flattened at one end.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It is a plant for the humid tropics. It does best in direct sunlight. It needs plenty of water. It grows in forest near the seashore. It suits hardiness zones 11-12. In Adelaide Botanical Gardens hot house. In the Cairns Botanical Gardens. In XTBG Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from fresh seed. These germinate quickly. Plants need to be sheltered from wind and direct sun while small. Plants can also be grown from suckers.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Plants grow quickly.

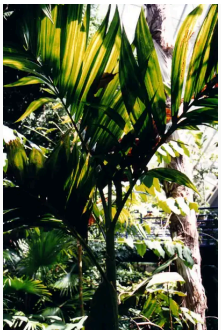
NOTES

There are 60 Areca species. They are tropical.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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