PLANT FACT SHEET

Mouriri pusa Gardner

GENUS *Mouriri* **FAMILY** Melastomataceae

COMMON NAMES Silverwood, Crato mouriri, Pusa

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are eaten fresh.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It may lose many leaves during the year. It grows 4-8 m tall. The crown is sparse. The leaves are somewhat leathery and 3-6 cm long. The flowers are white and have a scent. They are in clusters along the woody branches. They can be on the main trunk. The fruit are round and with a thin skin. The fruit are the size of a small plum. They contain 1-4 seeds. The pulp is juicy and sweet.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in scrubland and rocky sandy areas in Brazil.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. The seeds are collected from ripe fruit. The fruit are put into plastic bags to allow them to partly decompose and the seeds removed under running water. The seeds need to be planted fresh. They are best in light shade. Seedlings emerge in 70-90 days.

Harvesting and Seed Production

The plant grows slowly.

NOTES

They have also been put in the family Memecylaceae. It has antioxidant properties.

REFERENCES

Andrare, G. M. M., et al, 2023, Plantas Alimenticias Nao Convencionais (PANC) Nos Levantamentos Etnobotanicos do Brazil. Novos Cadernos NAEA v. 25 No. 2 p 214

Cavalcante, P.B. 1991. Frutas comestíveis da Amazônia. Edições CEJUP.

Fagg, C. W. et al, 2015, Useful Brazilian plants listed in the manuscripts and publications of the Scottish medic and naturalist George Gardner (1812–1849). Journal of Ethnopharmacology 161 (2015) 18–29

Gomes, L.C.A., et al, 2023, Patterns of use of wild food plants by Brazilian local communities: systematic review and meta-analysis. Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine. 19:47 p 9

Grandtner, M. M. & Chevrette, J., 2013, Dictionary of Trees, Volume 2: South America: Nomenclature, Taxonomy and Ecology. Academic Press p 424

Grandtner, M. M. & Chevrette, J., 2013, Dictionary of Trees, Volume 2: South America: Nomenclature, Taxonomy and Ecology. Academic Press p 424

Hedrick, U.P., 1919, (Ed.), Sturtevant's edible plants of the world. p 422

J. Bot. (Hooker) 2:23, t. 1. 1840

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 552

Leticia, Z., et al, 2015, Do Socioeconomic characteristics explain the knowledge and use of native food plants in semiarid environments in Northeastern Brazil? Journal of Arid Environments 115:53-61

Lorenzi, H., Bacher, L., Lacerda, M. & Sartori, S., 2006, Brazilian Fruits & Cultivated Exotics. Sao Paulo, Instituto Plantarum de Estuados da Flora Ltda. p 172

Lorenzi, H., 2009, Brazilian Trees. A Guide to the Identification and Cultivation of Brazilian Native Trees. Instituto Plantarum de Estuados da Flora Ltda. Vol. 3 p 209

Morley, T., 1976, Melastomataceae, Flora Neotropica Vol. 15 p 181

Oliviera V. B., et al, 2012, Native foods from Brazilian biodiversity as a source of bioactive compounds. Food Research International 48 (2012) 170-179

Paz, F. S., et al, 2021, Edible Fruit Plant Species in the Amazon Forest Rely Mostly on Bees and Beetles as Pollinators. Journal of Economic Entomology, XX(XX), 2021, 1–13

Rufino, M. M., et al, 2009, Quality for fresh consumption and processing of some non-traditional tropical fruits from Brazil. Fruits, Vol. 64, p 361-370

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/1b075860-e147-4535-b776-557c9191e656