PLANT FACT SHEET

Annona scleroderma Saff.

GENUS *Annona* **FAMILY** Annonaceae

COMMON NAMES Poshte

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are eaten fresh.

DESCRIPTION

A large tree. It grows 18-20 m tall. The leaves are sword shaped and 10-25 cm long by 5-8 cm wide. They are shiny on the upper surface and slightly hairy underneath. The leaf stalks are 3 cm long. Flowers form on the previous year's growth. They are creamy yellow. The fruit has a creamy, banana-pineapple like flavour. The flesh does not have fibres and fruit can be quite seedy. The skin is quite tough. The fruit is about 8 cm across. The skin is 5 mm thick. The seeds are in a white pulp. The fruit falls off when ripe.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It suits the tropical lowlands. It mainly occurs in Guatemala between 300 and 1,000 m altitude. This region has very fertile volcanic soils and a short dry period. It has an annual rainfall of 4,000 mm.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. Seed germinate in about 1 month, if fresh. If seed are stored, germination may take 6 months.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Trees produce after about 4 years when grown from seed.

NOTES

There are about 100-150 Annona species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/1c77417e-3d51-46d9-8a19-17a4d1208ea5