PLANT FACT SHEET

Amblygonocarpus andongensis (Welw. ex Oliv.) Exell. et Torre

GENUS *Amblygonocarpus* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Scotsman's rattle

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Spice

The pods gathered as they fall in the wind. The seeds are roasted and eaten whole, or pounded into a dry powder and usually seasoned with salt.

DESCRIPTION

A large spreading tree. It can be 15-20 m high. The bark is dark and scales into squares. The leaves are compound. They have 2-5 pairs of stalks each with 4-7 pairs of leaflets. The leaflets are rather large. They are oblong and 3 cm long by 2 cm wide. The flowers are of both sexes. They are cream and in spikes in the axils of leaves. They can be in pairs and hang down. The fruit is a very distinct pod. It is 17 cm long by 3.5 cm wide. They are glossy brown with 4 marked ridges. This makes the pods almost square in cross section.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in low altitude deciduous forest. It is often on Kalahari sands. In Zimbabwe it grows up to 1,370 m above sea level. In Brisbane Botanical Gardens.

NOTES

Chemical composition (seed acids [Rhodesian sample]): Oil = 12%. Component esters (wt. %): 16:0 = 4%. 18:0 = 4%. 18:1 = 22%. 18:2 = 576%. 18:3 = 2%. 20:0 = 3%. 20:1 = 1%. 22:0 = 5%. 24:0 = 2%. Also as Mimosaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/20eb8148-1744-486b-96df-7245db03cecf