PLANT FACT SHEET

Castanea henryi (Skan) Rehder. & E.H. Wilson

GENUS *Castanea* **FAMILY** Fagaceae

COMMON NAMES Zhui li, Conic chestnut

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Nuts

The seeds are eaten fresh.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows to 30 m tall. The leaf stalk is 1-2.5 cm long. The leaf blade in oblong and 10-23 cm long. Underneath it is covered with yellowish brown scale like glands. There are fine hairs along the veins. The leaf base is rounded. There are teeth 2-4 mm long around the edge. The leaf tapers to a point. The male flower is 5-16 cm long. There is normally one but sometimes 3 female flowers in a group. The cup is on a short spike. The cup is 2.5-3.5 cm across. This is covered with slightly hairy spine like bracts. There is one nut per cup. It is round and 1.5-2 cm across.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows in mixed forest on mountain slopes between 100-1800 m altitude in China.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed. Seedlings need transplanting very early.

NOTES

All Castanea bear edible nuts. There are about 12 Castanea species.

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