PLANT FACT SHEET

Lophira alata Banks ex. Gaertn.f.

GENUS *Lophira* **FAMILY** Ochnaceae

COMMON NAMES Meni oil tree, Red Ironwood, Red Oak

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds, Seeds - oil

DESCRIPTION

A large tree. It grows 40-60 m tall and is 5 m across. The trunk is straight and does not have buttresses. The bark is reddish and flakes off in small patches. The leaves occur in tufts at the ends of small branches. The leaves are 12-38 cm long by 3.5-10 cm wide. The are wide sword shaped. They have notches. The leaf stalks can be 2.5 cm long. The flowers can be yellow. The fruit are about 3 cm long and 12 mm wide with wide wings. The wings can be 5-10 cm long by 1.2-3.2 cm wide.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in lowland rainforest. It suits humid locations. It can grow in poor and acidic soils. It can be in seasonally flooded forests.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from fresh seeds. Seeds germinate in 9-16 days. They can be grown from stem cuttings.

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