PLANT FACT SHEET

Pouteria ramiflora (Martius) Radlkofer

GENUS *Pouteria* **FAMILY** Sapotaceae

COMMON NAMES Macaranduba, Abiu

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are eaten fresh.

DESCRIPTION

It is a large tree. It grows 10-25 m high. Often the trunk is short and gnarled. The young shoots have golden-brown hairs. The branches contain a milky latex like sap. The bark is cracked and scaly. The leaves are spaced and arranged in spirals. The leaves are 5-18.4 cm long by 2.5-8.4 cm wide. They are oval. There are 8-16 pairs of secondary veins. The leaf stalk is 0.6-1.8 cm long. The flowers occur in tufts of 5-15 flowers. The flowers are of one sex. The separate sexes occur on separate plants. The flowers are greenish-white. The fruit are green and egg shaped. It is 2.5-5 cm long. The fruit are edible. There is one seed. The seed is 1.6-3.2 cm long. The pulp is soft and white.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows well on sandy soil. It grows naturally in the Amazon in Brazil. It grows in the tropical savannah. It grows between 200-1300 m altitude.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. The seed are removed from ripe fruit. Seeds only remian viable for a short time. Seeds germinate in 20-40 days.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Plants grow at a moderate rate. The fruit mature 5-7 months after flowering.

NOTES

There are about 150-320 Pouteria species. They grow in the tropics.

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