PLANT FACT SHEET

Use with caution

This plant can be harmful if it is eaten raw, in large amounts or without the right preparation. Read the whole fact sheet before use.

Quassia indica (Gaertn.) Nootebom

GENUS *Quassia* **FAMILY** Simaroubaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds

CAUTION: The seeds cause vomiting and diarrhoea.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 21 m tall. The trunk is 39 cm across. The leaves are alternate and simple. The flowers are yellow to red and about 5 cm across. They are in small heads. The fruit are 6 cm long and purple-red. They are flattened and fleshy with one stone and 1-4 seeds inside. It has a thin wing.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in tidal swamps. It occurs up to 200 m above sea level. It can be on sandy soils or limestone.

NOTES

The fruit and seeds are used as medicine.

Mentioned as "Aela" in Tok Pisin = Tahitian chestnut " Inocarpus ?" Also as La kilipa in West Nakanai.

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/2a15a95b-3498-4f73-8057-cb2bd998b2f8