PLANT FACT SHEET

Cedrela odorata Linn.

GENUS *Cedrela* **FAMILY** Meliaceae

COMMON NAMES Barbadoes cedar, Cigar-box wood

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves

The young leaves are eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 18 m high and spreads 4.5 m wide. The trunk can be 1.5 m across. It has large buttresses. It has an open canopy. The bark is grey or brown and furrowed. The lower limbs curve down. The leaves have leaflets along the stalk. The leaves are 60 cm long. There are 5-12 pairs of leaflets. The flowers are separately male and female but on the same plant. The flowers are small and tube shaped and cream or green. They are in hanging clusters at the ends of branches. The clusters are 15-50 cm long.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It suits hardiness zones 10-12. In Fiji it is grown near sea level. In Costa Rica it grows from sea level to about 1,200 m altitude. It grows on dry or wet slopes. It is best in well-composted, moist, well-drained soils. It is damaged by drought or frost.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. They can also be grown by cuttings.

NOTES

There are 8 Cedrela species. The leaves are used in medicine.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

REFERENCES

Bodkin, F., 1991, Encyclopedia Botanica. Cornstalk publishing, p 230

Condit, R., et al, 2011, Trees of Panama and Costa Rica. Princeton Field Guides. p 312

Cundall, P., (ed.), 2004, Gardening Australia: flora: the gardener's bible. ABC Books. p 349

Ekman Herbarium records Haiti

Grandtner, M. M., 2008, World Dictionary of Trees. Wood and Forest Science Department. Laval University, Quebec, Qc Canada. (Internet database http://www.WDT.QC.ca)

Hedrick, U.P., 1919, (Ed.), Sturtevant's edible plants of the world. p 177

Jamaica: A country report to the FAO International Technical Conference on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Culture. 2008

Plants of Haiti Smithsonian Institute http://botany.si.edu/antilles/West Indies

Recher, P, 2001, Fruit Spirit Botanical Gardens Plant Index. www.nrg.com.au/~recher/ seedlist.html p 5

Smith, A.C., 1985, Flora Vitiensis Nova, Lawaii, Kuai, Hawaii, Volume 3 p 571

Syst. nat. ed. 10. 2:940. 1759

van Roosmalen, M.G.M., 1985, Fruits of the Guianan Flora. Utrecht Univ. & Wageningen Univ. p 284

World Checklist of Useful Plant Species 2020. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

Zuchowski W., 2007, Tropical Plants of Costa Rica. A Zona Tropical Publication, Comstock Publishing. p 58

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/2aa362d8-234c-4e10-b322-df628454ec9a