PLANT FACT SHEET

Mitragyna inermis (Willd.) O. Kuntze

GENUS *Mitragyna* **FAMILY** Rubiaceae

COMMON NAMES False abura

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Leaves

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 16 m high. The trunk is 60 cm across. The branches are low. The crown is round. The leaves are narrowly oval and 6-9 cm long by 4-5 cm wide. They are hairy on the veins underneath the leaf. Young leaves are red. The flowers occur singly at the ends of branches. They are cream coloured. They have a strong scent. The fruit are round and dark brown. They are 1.5 cm across. They are made of many small capsules with 2 valves each with many winged seeds.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in Nigeria (Kano State, northern). It grows in the Sahel. It grows in damp flooded sites and in swampy savannah. It can also grow on the inland side of coastal mangroves. It can tolerate salty soils.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown from root suckers. It can be cut back and re-grows.

NOTES

There are 10 Mitragyna species. They occur in Africa and Asia.

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