PLANT FACT SHEET

Edibility uncertain
It has not been confirmed that this plant is safe to eat. Do not eat it on the strength of this fact sheet alone.

Pritchardia pacifica Seem & Wendl.

GENUS *Pritchardia* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

COMMON NAMES Fiji Fan Palm, Pacific fan palm

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds, Palm heart

The seeds are eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A fan palm. It grows to about 10-15 m high. The trunk is 20 cm across. It has vertical cracks. The trunk is slim and covered with old leaf bases especially near the top. It has large stiff, fan shaped leaves. They can be 1.8 m long. These are held erect. It has many fine segments. The flowers grow among the leaves. Several flowering stalks occur. There is a distinct stalk and flowers in a cluster near the tip. The fruit are produced in abundance. They are small, round and black when ripe. They are 12 mm across.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in tropical dry forests. It needs well drained soil. It will grow in sun of light shade. Adelaide Botanical Gardens. In the Cairns Botanical Gardens. In Townsville Queens garden. It suits hardiness zones 11-12.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. Seed germinate easily. Young plants can easily die.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Once established, plants are fast growing in the tropics.

NOTES

There are about 40 Pritchardia species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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