PLANT FACT SHEET

Benstonea lauterbachii (K. Schum. & Warb.) Callm. & Buerki

GENUS *Benstonea* **FAMILY** Pandanaceae

COMMON NAMES Lauterbach's pandan

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The flesh is edible but it can sting the mouth.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or small tree up to 5 m tall. It spreads 2-3 m across the crown. It does not have prop roots. The leaves are simple and 1-2 m long. Leaves are 4-6 cm wide and strap shaped. They are dark green and shiny above and paler underneath. The edges of the leaves and the underside on the midrib have teeth. Trees are separately male and female. The male flower is 50-90 cm long. It hangs down and has broad white bracts. The female flowering stalk is 70-90 cm long. It is branched and has 7-9 spikes. The fruit is up to 10-17 cm long by 8-12 cm wide. They hang in bunches of 7-9 heads. They contain several seeds. Each segment is tipped with a prickly point. The seeds are about 1.5 cm long. The flesh is edible.

Now Benstonea lauterbachii (K. Schum. & Warb.) Callm. & Buerki;

HABITAT

A tropical plant. They grow naturally in rainforests in NE Queensland in Australia, usually near streams. It is also in PNG. It grows in rainforest near mangroves.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed. They can also be grown from young plantlets near the base of other plants.

NOTES

There are about 600 Pandanus species. They grow in the tropics.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/352b91d8-06e9-4eca-82b5-bd9eeb074558