PLANT FACT SHEET

Dialium holtzii Harms

GENUS *Dialium* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Mpepeta

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The pulp of the fruit is used for porridge.
The white pulp of the fruit is eaten like chewing gum. The seeds are discarded.
The ripe fruit are peeled and soaked in warm water then squeezed and sugar added then filtered to make a drink.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 20 m tall. The crown has a medium spread. The trunk is straight and it has small buttresses. The bark is grey-brown and smooth. The leaves are compound with an odd number of leaflets. There are 11-15 leaflets. The leaf blade is 3-7 cm long by 2-3 cm wide. The flowers are cream. The fruit are dark brown. They have a brittle outer coat. The pulp is red. There are 1 or 2 round brown seeds.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows along rivers and in dry lowland forests. In Tanzania it grows from sea level to 500 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Dried fruit can be kept for over 2 years. Fruit are collected from June to September in Tanzania.

NOTES

Also as Caesalpinaceae.

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