PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Aiphanes verrucosa* Borchsenius & Balslev.

**GENUS** *Aiphanes* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

**COMMON NAMES** Chonta

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Fruit, Palm heart, Cabbage

The fruit are eaten raw or poached.

## DESCRIPTION

A palm with many stems. There are about 6 per clump. They are 2-5 m tall. The trunks are 4-5 cm across. There are black spines in clusters. These are 8 cm long. There are 3-5 leaves arranged in one plane. These have 58-70 leaflets on each side. These are in clusters of 4-11. They are narrow and sword shaped with small spines along the edge. It has large flower clusters. The fruit are greenish-white and round and 2-3 cm across.

## HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows between 1800 to 2800 m altitude.

## NOTES

There are about 38 Aiphanes species. They grow in tropical America.

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