PLANT FACT SHEET

Ficus racemifera Teysm. & Binnend.

GENUS *Ficus* **FAMILY** Moraceae

COMMON NAMES Rocky River Fig, Cape Fig

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Fruit

DESCRIPTION

A fig. It is a small tree which grows 8-12 m high. It can be 30-40 m tall in tall forests. It spreads 6-12 m across. It has a rounded and often sparse crown. It does not have strangling nor aerial roots. The trunk is short and buttressed. The bark is reddish brown and scaly. The young shoots are pale green and covered densely with hairs. The leaves are large and heart shaped. The leaves are 12-24 cm long and 10-18 cm across. They are thin textured and have an irregular edge. They are mid green colour. The leaf stalks are 8-10 cm long. The fig fruit are 3-4 cm across. They are oval and reddish brown. They are produced in clusters on leafless shoots. These are produced on the trunk and older branches.

HABITAT

A tropical and subtropical plant. It grows in the lowland rainforest. It can be in drier situations.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed or by aerial layering.

NOTES

There are about 800-1000 Ficus species. They are mostly in the tropics. There are 120 Ficus species in tropical America.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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