PLANT FACT SHEET

Casearia nitida (L.) Jacq.

GENUS *Casearia* **FAMILY** Salicaceae

COMMON NAMES Smooth Casearia

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Leaves

DESCRIPTION

A tree which loses its leaves for short periods. It grows 5-7 m high. The leaves are narrowly oval and 4-6 cm long. The base is rounded and they taper to the tip. They are glossy and they are faint teeth around the edge. The flowers have white petals. The stamens are ruby red. The fruit is a yellow berry. The seeds have an orange-red aril, or fleshy layer around them.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in coastal and scrubby woodland. It grows well in seasonally moist and dry climates. It needs sandy, well-drained soils. It needs full sun or very light shade. It is salt tolerant. It suits hardines zones 10-12.

NOTES

There are 160-180 Casearia species. They are mostly in South America. 75 occur in tropical America. They have also been put in the plant family Flacourtiaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/3f6ae27f-2b47-48af-851b-188ab6a7fdd2