PLANT FACT SHEET

Canarium luzonicum (Blume) A. Gray

GENUS *Canarium* **FAMILY** Burseraceae

COMMON NAMES Java almond, Manila elemi, Pili nut

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: seeds, Nuts, Fruit, Leaves

The kernels of the nuts are eaten raw or roasted.
The fruit pulp can be cooked.
Young shoots can be eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A large tree. It can grow up to 35 m high and be 1 m through in the trunk. The leaves have 3-5 pairs of opposite leaflets and a leaflet at the end. The leaflets are long or oval and 7-25 cm long by 4-8 cm wide. The leaflets are pointed at the tip and wedge shaped at the base. At the base of the leaf stalk there is a round leafy structure called a stipule. It can be 8 mm across and softly hairy. The small branches are 4-6 mm thick. The flowers are fairly small and borne in large compound flower clusters. The flower clusters occur in the axils of leaves. The male clusters are 10-25 cm long while the female clusters are 5-18 cm long. There are many male flowers in the cluster but 3-5 female flowers in the female clusters. The fruiting stalk can be 4-10 cm long. The fruit is oval and slightly triangular in cross section. Fruit are 2-4 cm long by 1-2 cm wide.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. Common in the primary forest of Luzon and also found in Marinduque, Tacao, Mindoro and Masbate in Philippines. They grow at low to medium altitudes.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seeds.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Flowering occurs mainly in August and September and fruiting in January and February.

NOTES

There are 80-95 Canarium species.

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