PLANT FACT SHEET

Diospyros kamerunensis Gurke

GENUS *Diospyros* **FAMILY** Ebenaceae

COMMON NAMES Cameroon ebony

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The pulp of the fruit is eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 16-17 m high. The trunk is straight and 1 m around. The branches are arranged in rings and young branches have a golden brown coating. The bark is thin, rough and a bright dark green colour. The leaves are simple and alternate. They are pale green above and yellowish-green below. They are narrowly oval and 3-6 cm long by 2-3 cm wide. Young leaves have yellow hairs. The flowers are yellow to white and there are separate male and female flowers on the same plant. Male flowers are in groups and female flowers occur singly. The fruit are oval berries that are yellow when ripe. They are 4 cm long by 3.5 cm wide. They have 6-8 black seeds.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in the under-storey of the closed forest in West Africa. It can grow in poor but well-drained soils.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown by seeds.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Trees grow slowly.

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