PLANT FACT SHEET

Arenga tremula (Blanco) Becc.

GENUS *Arenga* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

COMMON NAMES Philippine dwarf sugar palm

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Sap, Cabbage, Bud, stem - starch

The flower stalks is tapped for sap known as tuba.

DESCRIPTION

A small sized palm often growing in large clumps or tufts. They are very distinctly ornamental. They grow to about 3 or 4 m high and the trunk is usually very short or almost absent. The leaf stalks are rather long and the leaflets narrow. They are 20 to 35 mm long and 13 to 18 mm wide. They are toothed and sometimes slightly lobed at the tip. The flower is large and held above the leaves.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. They are widely distributed in the central Philippines but of very local occurrence where they can occur in significant numbers. They grow in tropical areas and also warm temperate places. It suits hardiness zones 10-12. In the Cairns Botanical Gardens.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed.

NOTES

There are 17-20 Arenga species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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