PLANT FACT SHEET

Entada africana Guill. & Perr.

GENUS *Entada* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves - flavouring, Root

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It grows 8 m tall. It has low branches and a wide crown. It loses its leaves during the year. The bark is grey-brown and has stripes across it. It is scaly. The leaves are alternate and twice divided. The stalk is 25-30 cm long with 2-9 pair of side stalks which have 10-20 pairs of leaflets. The base of the leaflets is unequal. They are 2-3 cm long by 1 cm wide. The flowers are white to yellow and have a slight scent. They are in spikes 15 cm long in the axils of leaves. The fruit is a pod. It is 10-22 cm long and flat. The seeds have 2 wings.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in the savannah in West Africa. In Nigeria it is common at about 1,000 m above sea level. It grows in the Sahel. It grows on lower slopes or banks of swamps. It grows in areas with a rainfall between 600-1,200 mm each year. It is damaged by bush fires. It can grow in arid places.

NOTES

There are about 30 Entada species. They occur in the tropics. Also as Mimosaceae. The leaves contain rotenol.

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