PLANT FACT SHEET

Bactris acanthocarpa Mart.

GENUS *Bactris* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

COMMON NAMES Spiny fruit spiny clubpalm

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Shoots - salt

The shoots are burned for salt ash.

DESCRIPTION

A palm. It is spiny and grows 3 m tall. It has short stems that are usually underground. The stems have 5-15 leaves and these are 4 m long. The fruit are green but become red.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It is usually in lowlands on non flooded soils and can be up to 1,000 m above sea level. It grows in wet rainforest.

NOTES

There are 239 Bactris species. There are 75 species in tropical America. Most Bactris have fruit that are edible but many are not attractive. It is used as medicine.

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