PLANT FACT SHEET

Firmiana fulgens (Wall. ex Mast.) K. Schum.

GENUS *Firmiana* **FAMILY** Malvaceae

COMMON NAMES Pale sterculia

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Roots, Tubers

The seeds are eaten.
The root tubers are eaten. The root of the young tree is used.

DESCRIPTION

A medium sized tree. It often loses its leaves. The leaves are 10 cm long and have 3 lobes. They have hairs on both surfaces. The leaf stalk is 8-9 cm long. The flowers appear before the leaves. The flowers are bright yellow. The fruit is a many seeded dry fruit which opens down one side. The fruit has 5 sections. They are narrowly oval and 7-9 cm long by 2-3 cm wide. There is one seed in each section. The seeds are oval and 1 cm long by 6-8 mm wide.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. In Sikkim it grows between 500-900 m above sea level. It grows in sunny locations and in limestone areas.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown by seeds or cuttings.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Sikkim seeds are available in May and June.

NOTES

Also put in the family Sterculiaceae.

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