PLANT FACT SHEET

Carpoxylon macrospermum H. A. Wendl. & Drude

GENUS *Carpoxylon* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

COMMON NAMES Carpoxylon palm

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Cabbage, Palm heart

The young, immature fruit are edible.

DESCRIPTION

A solitary feather-leafed palm. It has a prominent green crown-shaft. The stem has prominent rings. The trunk can be 18 m tall and 35 cm across. The leaves have leaflets along the stalk. The leaves are long and feathery. The leaves arch over. The flowering stalk comes from below the crown-shaft. The fruit are 6 cm long by 3.5 cm wide. They are red. These have an edible kernel.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in partial shade or full sun. It needs plenty of moisture. It is damaged by frost. It needs humus-rich soil. In the Cairns Botanical Gardens. In Townsville palmetum.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. Seed take 3-6 months to germinate. Young plants require shade for the first few years.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Seedling growth is very rapid providing it has plenty of moisture.

NOTES

There is only one Carpoxylon species. It is an endangered species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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