PLANT FACT SHEET

Caesalpinia spinosa (Feuillee ec Molina) Britton & Rose

GENUS *Caesalpinia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Tara, Peruvian carob, Spiny holdback

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Gum - food additive

The outer coat of the seeds is separated and ground to collect tara gum.

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It grows 2-5 m tall. The bark is dark grey and has scattered prickles. The leaves are alternate. The leaves have 3-10 pairs of leaflets. These are 8 cm long. The flowering shoots are 15-20 cm and have many flowers. The flowers are yellow.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows from sea level to 3,000 m above sea level.

REFERENCES

Kermath, B. M., et al, 2018, Food Plants in the Americas: A survey of the domesticated, cultivated and wild plants used for Human food in North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. p 198

Wikipedia

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French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/58b1e4ad-03bd-4efe-b225-3091d3873f64