PLANT FACT SHEET

Poisonous

This plant, or parts of it, can be poisonous. Do not eat it unless you know which parts are safe and how they must be prepared.

Food Plants International: Caution - the seeds are probably poisonous.

Erythrina berteroana Urban

GENUS *Erythrina* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Coral bean

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Shoots, Buds, Flowers, Seeds

The young shoots, leaves and buds are eaten in salads, stews and other dishes.
The flowers are cooked and eaten with meat, in stews and in egg dishes.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 6-10 m high. The crown is open. The leaves have 3 leaflets. These are 15 cm long and broadly diamond shaped. The flower clusters are erect and 15-30 cm long with bright red flowers along them. The fruit are woody twisted pods. These are 10-25 cm long and constricted between the seeds. There are many seeds and they are about 1 cm long. They are red with a black line.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. In Central America it grows between 800-2,000 m altitude.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown by seeds or cuttings.

NOTES

There are 112-125 Erythrina species. They are mostly in the tropics and subtropics.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/5a0747ba-7dc0-4dde-a7e5-289f1c372e57