PLANT FACT SHEET

Platonia esculenta (Arruda) Rickett & Stafleu

GENUS *Platonia* **FAMILY** Clusiaceae

COMMON NAMES Bakuri, Guiana orange

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds, seeds - aril

The fruit are eaten fresh. They are also used for ice cream and milkshakes. They can be used for jams and jellies.

DESCRIPTION

A tall timber tree. It grows 15-25 m tall. The trunk can be 50-80 cm across. It has a bright yellow latex. The leaves are simple and oval. They are 8-14 cm long. The flowers are large. They are 7 cm long. The fruit is yellow. The flesh is creamy white and sweet. The fruit is oval and 7-15 cm long by 5-15 cm wide. The fruit have 1-5 seeds. The seeds are oblong and angular. The aril or fleshy layer around the seeds is white, succulent, sweet and edible.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows naturally in the estuary of the Amazon River. It grows in areas with 1300-3000 mm rain per year. The temperatures are 25-26°C. It needs good soil moisture.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed. The fruit are harvested and the seeds are planted fresh without drying out. Seed will not store more than 30 days. Fresh seed are planted and germinate in 20-40 days. Plants can also be grafted.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Plants grow quickly. A fruit can weigh 1 kg.

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