PLANT FACT SHEET

Calamus javensis Blume

GENUS *Calamus* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

COMMON NAMES Candle rattan

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Palm heart, Cabbage, Shoots

CAUTION: The plant contains alkaloids in the seed, leaf, stem and root.
The young shoots are eaten cooked.

DESCRIPTION

A palm or rattan. It is a small, clustering climber. The stems can be 10 m long and 1 cm across. It climbs by 1 m long flagelli which are on the ends of 60 cm long leaves. The leaflets are dark green and 12 cm long. They taper towards the tip. The lowest pair of leaflets usually point backwards. The leaflets at the end are fused.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows from sea level to 2,000 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed and suckers.

NOTES

There are 375-400 Calamus species. There are 175 species in tropical Asia.

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