PLANT FACT SHEET

Senna septemtrionalis (Viv.) H. S. Irwin & Barneby

GENUS *Senna* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Showy cassia, Smooth senna

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Seeds, Tuber, Seeds - coffee

The young leaves and shoots are steamed and eaten with rice.
The soft half ripe seeds are cooked or roasted. The seeds are also used for coffee.

DESCRIPTION

An erect shrub or tree. It grows 5 m high. The leaflet blades are narrowly oval and taper to the tip. The leaflet blades are 5-10 cm long by 2-3 cm wide. The pair of leaflets at the end are the largest. The flowers are yellow and the petals are 13 mm long. The fruit is a pod 7-8 m long by 1.5 cm wide. The seeds are shiny and olive green. They are 5 mm long by 3 mm wide.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in dry soils. It grows on the edges of forests. In northern Australia it grows between 700-1,100 m above sea level. In Java it grows between 500-2,000 m above sea level.

NOTES

Also as Caesalpinaceae.

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