PLANT FACT SHEET

Araucaria angustifolia (Bertol.) Kuntze

GENUS *Araucaria* **FAMILY** Araucariaceae

COMMON NAMES Brazilian-pine, Brazilian monkey puzzle tree, Candelabra-tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Gum, Nuts, Fruit

The seeds are roasted and eaten. The large kernels need to be boiled for some hours then the outer shells peeled off.
The gum is also eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A large evergreen tree. It can be 30 m high. It has a bare trunk and wide flat crown. The leaves are long, flat and overlapping. They form two rows on the small branches. The leaves are 5 cm long and have a sharp point. The seed cones are 15 cm long. The tips of the scales curve back. The seeds are large. They can be 5 cm long.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. In Brazil it grows up to 500-900 m altitude. In Indonesia it grows between 500-1,800 m above sea level. It suits hardiness zones 9-12. Arboretum Tasmania. National Arboretum Canberra.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

The seeds are harvested from the ground after they fall. They are best sown fresh. Seeds sprout in a few days.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It grows rapidly.

NOTES

There are 19 Araucaria species. There are 13 species in New Caledonia.

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