PLANT FACT SHEET

Chamaecrista absus (L.) H.S. Irwin & Barneby

GENUS *Chamaecrista* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Pods, Leaves, Seed, Fruit

The raw pods are eaten fresh.

DESCRIPTION

An evergreen shrub. It grows 5 m high and spreads 3 m wide. The stem is slender and erect. The branches are spreading. The leaves are alternate and have 4 triangle shaped leaflets. They are 2.5 cm long. The flowers are yellow. They are in clusters at the ends of branches. The fruit are long, flat, pointed pods.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It will grow in most soils. They need to be well-drained. It is damaged by frost or drought.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seeds. The seeds need treatment before planting.

NOTES

There are 100 Cassia species. This group has been revised to a smaller more consistent group of about 30 species. Also as Caesalpinaceae.

REFERENCES

Ambasta S.P. (Ed.), 2000, The Useful Plants of India. CSIR India. p 109 (As Cassia absus)

Arinathan, V., et al, 2007, Wild edibles used by Palliyars of the western Ghats, Tamil Nadu. Indian Journal of Traditional Knowledge. 6(1) pp 163-168

Bodkin, F., 1991, Encyclopedia Botanica. Cornstalk publishing, p 219 (As Cassia absus)

Dey, A. & Mukhererjee, A., 2015, Living and Survival Amidst Hunger: Wild Edible Botanicals as a Prime Forest Productivity in the Rural Purulia District, West Bengal, India from Colonial to Present. Research Journal of Forestry 9(3): 71-86

Dobriyal, M. J. R. & Dobriyal, R., 2014, Non Wood Forest Produce an Option for Ethnic Food and Nutritional Security in India. Int. J. of Usuf. Mngt. 15(1):17-37 (As Cassia absus)

Goode, P., 1989, Edible Plants of Uganda. FAO p 30 (As Cassia absus)

Jackes, B. R., 2010, Plants of Magnetic Island. 3rd Edition. James Cook University, Australia. p 91

Rubaihayo, E. B., Conservation and use of traditional vegetables in Uganda. Bioversity International. (As Cassia absus)

Sharma, B.D., & Lakshminarasimhan, P., 1986, Ethnobotanical Studies on the Tribals of Nasik District (Maharashtra). J. Econ. Tax. Bot. Vol. 8 No. 2 pp 439-446 (As Cassia absus)

Sp. pl. 1:537. 1753 (As Cassia absus)

World Checklist of Useful Plant Species 2020. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/744b236c-d209-4547-8b75-441b40d71e6f