PLANT FACT SHEET

Pterocarpus erinaceus Poiret

GENUS *Pterocarpus* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES West African rosewood

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Fruit, Seeds, Gum

The leaves are cooked and eaten.
Seeds need to be well cooked before eating.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 12-15 m high. It can be 35 m high. The trunk is straight. There can be buttresses in old trees. The crown is oval or round. The bark is dark brown. It is very scaly. The branches are hairy. The leaves are alternate and 30 cm long. There are up to 11 leaflets along the stalk with one at the end. The leaflets are 10 cm long by 5 cm wide. The flowers are light yellow and in groups. The fruit are green and become papery and rounded. They are 7.5 cm across.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in the Sahel. It grows on shallow and gravelly soils. In Nigeria it has been recorded at 1,000 m above sea level. It grows in areas with between 700-1,200 mm of rain each year. It can grow in arid places.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds. They can also be grow by cuttings. Trees can re-grow after pruning back.

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

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