PLANT FACT SHEET

Goniocheton arborescens Blume

GENUS *Goniocheton* **FAMILY** Meliaceae

COMMON NAMES Mossman Mahogany

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds

The seeds are peeled and roasted and eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A medium to large tree with rigid branches. It can be 6-10 m high and spread to 3-8 m wide. It has smooth branches with lenticels. The bark of the young branches is dark red. The leaves are alternate and scattered with 7 pairs of leaflets. The leaves are 12-20 cm long. The leaf stalks have grooves along their length. The leaflets are thinly leathery and shiny on the upper surface. The leaflets are 7-15 cm long by 2.5-5 cm wide. They are oblong and unequal at the base. Flowers are borne in the axils of leaves and are yellowish white. They are small, about 1 cm across. The stamens are slightly shorter than the petals. The fruit are round but flattened and can be wrinkled. They are red and with 5 cells. The flesh is white and they have 1 to 4 seeds.

HABITAT

A tropical and subtropical plant. They grow in mixed mountain forest in the tropics. They are found in the Philippines in lower and middle altitude forests throughout the islands. They need acid and well drained soil.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed which must be planted while fresh.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Australia, flowering occurs in November to December.

NOTES

Medicine for coughs is made from the bark. There are about 80-200 Dysoxylum species. They occur in Asia and the Pacific in the tropics.

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