PLANT FACT SHEET

Calathea crotalifera S. Watson

GENUS *Calathea* **FAMILY** Marantaceae

COMMON NAMES Rattlesnake plant, Krigo bugun

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Shoots

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It grows 3 m tall. It has underground rhizomes. The leaves are large and dark green with a paler green along the midrib. They are greyish green underneath. The flowering shoots are upright and 25 cm long. These have stacked leathery flower bracts. They are yellow or orange and the flowers peek out at the edges. The actual flowers are tube shaped with 3 unequal petals. The fruit capsules are egg shaped with dark blue seeds in white flesh.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It suits wet areas. Brisbane Botanical Gardens.

NOTES

There are 260-300 Calathea species in tropical America.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

REFERENCES

Castaneda, H., & Stepp, J. R., 2007, Ecosystems as Sources of Useful Plants for the Guaymi People of Costa Rica. Ethnobotany Journal. 5:249-257

D'Ambrosio, U., & Puri, R. K., 2016, Foodways in transition: food plants, diet and local perceptions of change in a Costa Rican Ngäbe community. Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine (2016) 12:3 p 26

Kew Plants of the World On line

Langlois, H. C., 2004, Ethnobotanical analysis of different successional stages as sources of wild edible plants for the Guaymi people in Costa Rica. M. Sc. thesis University of Florida.

Torre, de la, L., et al, 2008, Enciclopedia de las Plantas Útiles del Ecuador. Herbario QCA. Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador. p 417

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/74f08a35-4f91-415e-9f59-8eb4ad50fac0