PLANT FACT SHEET

Livistona saribus (Lour.) Merr.

GENUS *Livistona* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

COMMON NAMES Lao lady palm, Serdang palm, Taraw palm

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Bud, Cabbage, Fruit, Palm heart, Nuts, Sap

The bud is eaten cooked.
The very hard layer of the fruit is crushed in salt and vinegar solution then eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A large fan palm. It grows up to 20 m high and 20 cm across the trunk. The trunk is pale grey. The trunk has rings along it. The leaves are fan shaped. They are 1.5 m across. The leaves are irregularly parted with deep segments. The leaf stalks are reddish to orange. The leaf stalks are armed with very small robust spines. The flowers are stalkless and in small groups on small branches. The fruit are round or very slightly kidney shaped and blue. They are 11 to 15 mm across. They occur in large clusters.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It will grow in the subtropics. They grow in groups in large numbers in open places in the Cagayan Valley in the Philippines. in southern China it grows in lowland rain forests often in places that are occasionally flooded between 600-1,100 m above sea level. It suits hardiness zones 9-12. In XTBG Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. Seed germinate in 2-4 months.

NOTES

There are 28 Livistona species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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