PLANT FACT SHEET

Tetrorchidium didymostemon (Baill.) Pax. et K. Hoffm.

GENUS *Tetrorchidium* **FAMILY** Euphorbiaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Stem, Leaves

The stem is sucked for the sweet sap in the bark.

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It grows 8-12 m high. The trunk is 1 m around. It can grow to 24 m high. The trunk is sometimes fluted. The bark is grey and finely cracked. The branches are zigzag shaped because they bend at each node. Branches are often opposite. The leaves are 7.5-21 cm long by 3.5-11 cm wide. The leaves are thin and papery. The flowers are separately male and female. Male occur in single spikes opposite the leaves. Female flowers are very small and in clusters of 3-5. The fruit have 3 lobes. They are 6 mm across. They contain 3 red seeds.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in secondary rainforest. It suits humid locations.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Central African Republic plants have been recorded flowering in May, June and October and fruiting May to July.

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