PLANT FACT SHEET

Posoqueria latifolia (Rudge) Roemer & Schultes

GENUS *Posoqueria* **FAMILY** Rubiaceae

COMMON NAMES Needle-flower tree, Panama posoqueria, Perfume-tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, seeds - aril, Seed

The edible layer (aril) around the seed in the fruit is eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A small evergreen tree. It grows 7-20 m tall. The leaves are simple and dark green. They are opposite and have short stalks. They are oblong and 20 cm long. They are leathery. The flowers are white and showy. They occur in dense heads. The flowers have a slender tube and open out at the end. The tubes can be 17 cm long. The flowers are fragrant. The fruit is a berry. It is 5 cm across and round and yellow. It is edible.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. They grow in tropical America. It grows up to 100 m above sea level. It is native from Mexico to South America. It grows in humid forest and on volcanic soils. It does well in seasonally moist and dry climates. It can grow in an average, well-drained soil. It can grow in full or part sun. It suits hardiness zones 10-12.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed, cuttings or layers.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It is fast growing. The plants flower when rain follows a dry period. They are pollinated by hawkmoths.

NOTES

There are 12 Posoqueria species.

REFERENCES

Altschul, S.V.R., 1973, Drugs and Foods from Little-known Plants. Notes in Harvard University Herbaria. Harvard Univ. Press. Massachusetts. no. 4221

Andrare, G. M. M., et al, 2023, Plantas Alimenticias Nao Convencionais (PANC) Nos Levantamentos Etnobotanicos do Brazil. Novos Cadernos NAEA v. 25 No. 2 p 220

Barwick, M., 2004, Tropical and Subtropical Trees. A Worldwide Encyclopedic Guide. Thames and Hudson p 343

Bendezu, Y. F., 2018, Arboles nativos de lad Region Ucayali. Instituto Nacional de Innovacion Agraria. p 278

Brack, P., et al, 2020, Frutas nativas do Rio Grande do Sul, Brasil: riqueza e potencial alimentício.
Native fruits of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil: richness and potential as food. Rodriguésia 71: e03102018

Chizmar Fernandez, C., et al, 2009, Plantas comestibles de Centroamerica. Instituto de Biodiversidad, Costa Rica. p 278

Coe, F. G., and Anderson, G. J., 1996, Ethnobotany of the Garifuna of Eastern Nicaragua. Economic Botany 50(1) pp 71-107

Coe, F. G. and Anderson, G. J., 1999, Ethnobotany of the Sumu (Ulwa) of Southeastern Nicaragua and Comparisons with Miskitu Plant Lore. Economic Botany Vol. 53. No. 4. pp. 363-386

Condit, R., et al, 2011, Trees of Panama and Costa Rica. Princeton Field Guides. p 396

Cundall, P., (ed.), 2004, Gardening Australia: flora: the gardener's bible. ABC Books. p 1075

Facciola, S., 1998, Cornucopia 2: a Source Book of Edible Plants. Kampong Publications, p 213

Grandtner, M. M., 2008, World Dictionary of Trees. Wood and Forest Science Department. Laval University, Quebec, Qc Canada. (Internet database http://www.wdt.qc.ca)

Grandtner, M. M. & Chevrette, J., 2013, Dictionary of Trees, Volume 2: South America: Nomenclature, Taxonomy and Ecology. Academic Press p 519

Hellmuth, N. M., 2013, Maya Ethnobotany. Complete Inventory of plants. Associacion FLAAR Mesoamerica. Thirteenth edition. p 28

Kermath, B. M., et al, 2014, Food Plants in the Americas: A survey of the domesticated, cultivated and wild plants used for Human food in North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. On line draft. p 680

Kinupp, V. F., 2007, Plantas alimenticias nao-convencionais da regiao metropolitana de Porto Alegre, RS, Brazil p 97

Llamas, K.A., 2003, Tropical Flowering Plants. Timber Press. p 332

Lopez-Diago, D. & Garcia, N., 2021, Wild edible fruits of Colombia. Biota ColomBiana 22 (2) p 50

Lorenzi, H., Bacher, L., Lacerda, M. & Sartori, S., 2006, Brazilian Fruits & Cultivated Exotics. Sao Paulo, Instituto Plantarum de Estuados da Flora Ltda. p 289

NYBG herbarium "edible"

Peres, M. K., 2011, Diasporos do Cerrado Atrativos para Fauna: Chave Interativa Caracterizacao Visual e Relacoes Ecologicas. Masters thesis. Universidade de Brasilia.

Roa, J. A. G. & Boada, D. S. G., 2018, Fundación para el Fortalecimiento de la Fruticultura y Plantas Alimenticias no Convencionales en Colombia.

Segura, S., et al, 2018, The edible fruit species in Mexico. Genet Resour Crop Evol (2018) 65:1767–1793

Staples, G.W. and Herbst, D.R., 2005, A tropical Garden Flora. Bishop Museum Press, Honolulu, Hawaii. p 492 (Drawing)

Sukarya, D. G., (Ed.) 2013, 3,500 Plant Species of the Botanic Gardens of Indonesia. LIPI p 468

Syst. veg. 5:227. 1816

van Roosmalen, M.G.M., 1985, Fruits of the Guianan Flora. Utrecht Univ. & Wageningen Univ. p 384

World Checklist of Useful Plant Species 2020. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

www.colecionandofrutas.org

Zuchowski W., 2007, Tropical Plants of Costa Rica. A Zona Tropical Publication, Comstock Publishing. p 198

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/7aadef29-5c78-4f79-8dc8-427ce251e87d