PLANT FACT SHEET

Gleditsia amorphoides (Griseb.) Taub.

GENUS *Gleditsia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Coronillo blanco

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit - gum

The fruit produces a gum used in sweets. It is also used as a thickening agent.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 10-20 m tall. The crown is round. The trunk is upright and 30-60 cm across. The bark is rough and with long branched spines. They are 10 cm long. These are absent in older trees. The leaves are compound and have leaflets along the stalk. They can be twice divided. The mainly leaf division is 10-15 cm long with 14-18 leaflets. The secondary leaflets have 2-8 leaflets. The flowers are in groups of three clumps and are 5-6 cm long. The fruit are flattened pods. There are 6-8 very hard seeds.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in semi-deciduous forests in the Amazon in Brazil. In Argentina it grows from sea level to 1,500 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. The seed are removed from ripe fruit and are planted fresh. They should be scratched to break the hard seed coat and will germinate in 4-5 weeks. Seedlings can be transplanted into the field in 5-6 months.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Plants grow at a moderate rate in the field.

NOTES

The gum is also used in other products. Also as Caesalpinaceae.

REFERENCES

Ber. Deutsch. Bot. Ges. 10:638. 1892

Grandtner, M. M. & Chevrette, J., 2013, Dictionary of Trees, Volume 2: South America: Nomenclature, Taxonomy and Ecology. Academic Press p 265

Lorenzi, H., 2002, Brazilian Trees. A Guide to the Identification and Cultivation of Brazilian Native Trees. Vol. 02 Nova Odessa, SP, Instituto Plantarum p 163

Wiersema, J. H. & Leon, B., 2013, World Economic Plants. A Standard Reference CRC Press. 2nd Ed. p 324

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

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/82b3f738-7c80-4908-a75a-fd6848d55486