PLANT FACT SHEET

Couepia bracteosa Bentham

GENUS *Couepia* **FAMILY** Chrysobalanaceae

COMMON NAMES Pajura, Aruadan

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are eaten fresh.

DESCRIPTION

An evergreen tree. It grows 20 m tall. The crown is dense and narrow. The leaves are simple and leathery. They are dark green and shiny on top and greyish-brown and dusty underneath. They are 20-34 cm long on stalks 1-2 cm long. The flowers are in groups in the axils of leaves and at the ends of branches. The flowers are small, white and uneven. The fruit are oval and fleshy. There is a large seed. The skin is thin and the pulp is thick. The fruit have a high oil content.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows naturally in tropical dryland forest in the Amazon in Brazil.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. The seeds are collected from very ripe fruit that have the pulp washed out. The seeds should be planted fresh. Seeds can take several weeks to emerge.

NOTES

There are 71 Couepia species. They are all in tropical America.

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