PLANT FACT SHEET

Juania australis (Mart.) Drude ex Hook.f.

GENUS *Juania* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

COMMON NAMES Chonta

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Palm heart, Fruit, Cabbage

DESCRIPTION

A palm. It grows 19 m high. The trunk is 25 cm across. It is light to dark grey. There are closely spaced rings of leaf base scars. They are light coloured. There is no crown-shaft. The leaf crown is half round. The leaves are 2-2.6 m long and spreading but slightly arching at the ends. The leaflets are green and 60 cm long. They are stiff and narrowly sword shaped. They are divided at their tips. The flowering stalk grows from the leaf sheaths. The bracts are long and woody. The fruit are orange-red. They are 1.5-1.8 cm across.

HABITAT

It grows in moist cool forests on steep ridges between 200 and 835 m altitude in Juan Fernandez Island in the Pacific off Chile. It does not tolerate cold temperatures, nor hot temperatures.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It is difficult to grow.

NOTES

There is only one Juania species.

REFERENCES

Davis, S.D., Heywood, V.H., & Hamilton, A.C. (eds), 1994, Centres of plant Diversity. WWF. Vol 1 or 2. p 566

Haynes, J., & McLaughlin, J., 2000, Edible palms and Their Uses. University of Florida Fact sheet MCDE-00-50-1 p 6

Hedrick, U.P., 1919, (Ed.), Sturtevant's edible plants of the world. p 207 ? Cocos australis

Henderson, A., Galeano, G and Bernal, R., 1995, Field Guide to the Palms of the Americas. Princeton. p 77

Jones, D.L., 1994, Palms throughout the World. Smithtonian Institution, Washington. p 54, 57

Leon-Lobos, P., et al, 2022, Patterns of Traditional and Modern Uses of Wild Edible Native Plants of Chile: Challenges and Future Perspectives. Plants (Basel) v 11 (6) Table S1

Rep. Roy. Bot. Gard. Kew 1882: app. 57. 1884

Riffle, R.L. & Craft, P., 2003, An Encyclopedia of Cultivated Palms. Timber Press. p 359

Zona, S., Heart of Palm Use: A Family Survey. p 4

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/84f95db1-6194-43f7-b925-1383d25ef32c