PLANT FACT SHEET

Stereospermum kunthianum Cham.

GENUS *Stereospermum* **FAMILY** Bignoniaceae

COMMON NAMES Pink jacaranda, Pink padri tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Bark, Fruit, Branches

The bark is bitter but is chewed by girls to stain their lips red.
The slender stem are chewed as a chewing stick.

DESCRIPTION

A slender tree. It grows 15 m high. The trunk and branches are usually crooked. The bark is pale grey. The leaves are 18-45 cm long and divided 2 to 5 times. The leaflet blade is 5-13 cm long by 2-6 cm wide. They are oval and slightly unequal. There are hairs underneath. The flowers are in a loose panicle at the ends of branches. The flowers are pink and droop. The fruit are long pods. The seeds are 7 mm by 20-30 mm including the wing.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in wooded Savannah and the drier Sahel. It can be on dry rocky sites and termite mounds. In southern Africa it grows from 60-1,500 m altitude. It can grow in arid places.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds. Seeds germinate poorly. They need to be sown fresh. Plants can be grown from suckers and roots.

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