PLANT FACT SHEET

Juglans neotropica Diels

GENUS *Juglans* **FAMILY** Juglandaceae

COMMON NAMES Tropical walnut, Andean walnut, Ecuador walnut

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Nuts

The nuts are eaten. They can be used in desserts and pastries.
The seeds are eaten fresh and used in various food preparations.

DESCRIPTION

A large tree. It grows 26 m tall. The bark is thick and cracked. The leaves have 15-19 leaflets. These are oval and thick. The leaves are almost evergreen. They have a strong smell. Male and female flowers are on the same tree. It does not need cross pollination for nut production. The nuts are black and thick shelled. They are a flattened round shape and 5 cm long.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It is native to the Andes. It does not have a chilling requirement. It can be damaged by frost. It can grow between -3°C and 25°C. In Ecuador it grows between 0-500 m and from 1,700-3,500 m above sea level. It grows in a cool tropical climate. It grows in the highlands between 1,800-3,000 m above sea level. It grows in areas with low to medium rainfall.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds. The hard seed coat needs to be broken by scratching.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It is fast growing. It can produce nuts within 5-6 years.

NOTES

There are about 30 Juglans species. All species bear edible nuts.

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