PLANT FACT SHEET

Inga cinnamomea Spruce ex Benth.

GENUS *Inga* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Cinnamon inga, Inga-acu, Inga-assu

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fleshy aril layer around the seeds is eaten fresh.

DESCRIPTION

An evergreen tree. It grows 10-15 m tall. The leaves are compound. They have leaflets along the stalk. There are 3 pairs of rounded, papery leaflets. They vary in size from 10-27 cm long and 4-10 cm wide. The larger ones are at the end. The flowering cluster is round. The flowers are white. The fruit are pods. They can be 30 cm long and have 8-15 large seeds. They are in a dense seed covering that is sweet and clings strongly to the seeds.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows naturally on the flood plains throughout the Amazon in Brazil. It grows up to 500 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seeds. Seeds are collected from ripe pods. Seeds need to be sown fresh. They are best in light shade. Seedlings emerge in 10-20 days.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Plants grow rapidly.

NOTES

There are 350 Inga species. Also as Mimosaceae.

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