PLANT FACT SHEET

Bactris macana (Mart.) Pittier

GENUS *Bactris* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

COMMON NAMES Chontilla, Chinamato, Chonta, Pijuayo del monte, Pupunha brava

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Palm hearts, Cabbage

The fruit are cooked or roasted and the pulp eaten.
The palm hearts are eaten raw or cooked.

DESCRIPTION

A palm with many stems. It grows 9.5-12 m tall. The stems are 10-20 cm across. It has spines. These can be 1 cm long. There are 8-17 leaves. These have 92-141 leaflets along each side. The tips are divided and unequal. The leaflets are arranged irregularly and are in different planes. The flowering stalk has 40-70 flowering branches. The bract is covered with spines. The fruit are red to orange and 2 cm across. They are round.

Probably now Bactris gasipaes var. chichagui (H. Karst.) A. J. Hend.;

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in humid areas. It grows between 600 and 1300 m altitude in Ecuador.

NOTES

There are 239 Bactris species. There are 75 species in tropical America. Most Bactris have fruit that are edible but many are not attractive.

REFERENCES

Eynden, Van den, V., & Cueva E., Cebrera, O., 2004, Edible Palms of Southern Ecuador. Palms. Vol 48(3):141-147

Haynes, J., & McLaughlin, J., 2000, Edible palms and Their Uses. University of Florida Fact sheet MCDE-00-50-1 p 3

Henderson, A., Galeano, G and Bernal, R., 1995, Field Guide to the Palms of the Americas. Princeton. p 192, 269

Hermandez Bermejo, J.E., and Leon, J. (Eds.), 1994, Neglected Crops. 1492 from a different perspective. FAO Plant Production and Protection Series No 26. FAO, Rome. p 215

Hermandez Bermejo, J.E., and Leon, J. (Eds.), 1994, Neglected Crops. 1492 from a different perspective. FAO Plant Production and Protection Series No 26. FAO, Rome. p 215 (As Bactris caribea)

Janick, J. & Paul, R. E. (Eds.), 2008, The Encyclopedia of Fruit & Nuts. CABI p 102

Johnson, D.V., 1998, Tropical palms. Non-wood Forest products 10. FAO Rome. p 91

Kermath, B. M., et al, 2014, Food Plants in the Americas: A survey of the domesticated, cultivated and wild plants used for Human food in North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. On line draft. p 116

Man. pl. usual. Venez. 276. 1926

Van den Eynden, V. et al, 2004, Edible Palms of Southern Ecuador. Palms Volume 48(3):142-148

Van den Eynden, V., et al, 2004, Regional and ecological variations of wild edible plants in southern Ecuador. Lyonia. 7(2)

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/8f0669ea-d607-409a-b86f-eb9c7cb52c0e