PLANT FACT SHEET

Octolobus spectabilis Welw.

GENUS *Octolobus* **FAMILY** Malvaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or small tree. It grows 10 m tall. The trunk can be 15 cm across. The small branches are hairy. The leaves are alternate, simple and entire. The leaf blade is 6-24 cm long by 2-8 cm wide. They are round or wedge shaped at the base and taper to the tip. The flowers occur singly and are yellow. Flowers can have both sexes or just be male. The fruit has 10-65 almost round follicles. The fruit are 5 cm long and 3.5 cm wide. They are reddish-brown with 2-7 seeds. The seeds are shiny black.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in the undergrowth in dry forest in West Africa. It can occur up to 1,000 m altitude.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seeds.

NOTES

There are 3 Octolobus species. They are like Cola. Also put in the family Sterculiaceae.

REFERENCES

Brink, M., 2007. Octolobus spectabilis Welw. [Internet] Record from Protabase. Louppe, D., Oteng-Amoako, A.A. & Brink, M. (Editors). PROTA (Plant Resources of Tropical Africa), Wageningen, Netherlands. < http://database.prota.org/search.htm>. Accessed 20 October 200919 October 2009.

Burkill, H. M., 1985, The useful plants of west tropical Africa, Vol. 5. Kew. (As Octolobus angustatus)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/8f0e11b2-2361-45e0-9e40-4fb6f6c50c82