PLANT FACT SHEET

Inga acrocephala Steudel

GENUS *Inga* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Swit'bonki

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: fruit, pod

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 25 m high. The twigs have a few hairs. The leaves are compound. There are usually 4 stalks of leaflets. The leaflets are leathery. The flowers are in spikes in the axils of leaves or at the ends of branches. The fruit is a somewhat curved pod. It is woody and 28 cm long by 4 cm wide and 1 cm thick. They are green and have irregular ribs across them. They are a little swollen over the seeds. There are about 20 seeds. They are pale green. The pulp of the pods is sweet and edible.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in rainforest especially on slopes. It also grows in cloud forests. In Mexico it grows from sea level to 1,400 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants grow easily from seeds. Seeds germinate in 1-2 weeks given moisture and shade.

NOTES

Also as Mimosaceae.

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