PLANT FACT SHEET

Pouteria torta (Martius) Radlkofer

GENUS *Pouteria* **FAMILY** Sapotaceae

COMMON NAMES Curiola, Twisted pouteria

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

Fruit are eaten fresh and used in drinks and preserves.

DESCRIPTION

A small to medium sized tree. It grows up to 10 m high. It can be 40 m tall. The crown is round and the trunk is grooved. The trunk is short and 30-40 cm across. The leaves are leathery. They are in groups at the tips of the stems. The leaves are 20-25 cm long. The flowers are small and red. The fruit are small and egg shaped. They are 3-7 cm across. The skin is green to brown and the flesh is soft and white.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows naturally in wet tropical rainforests in Brazil. It is often near swamps and river banks. It grows in lowlands and uplands.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. The ripe fruit are harvested and put in a heap to allow the flesh to rot. The seeds are washed out with running water. The seeds are only viable for a very short time. Fresh seed should be planted. They germinate in 25-50 days.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Plants grow quickly in the field. The fruit are picked off the ground during the rainy season.

NOTES

There are about 150-320 Pouteria species. They grow in the tropics.

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