PLANT FACT SHEET

Theobroma purpureum Pittier

GENUS *Theobroma* **FAMILY** Malvaceae

COMMON NAMES Purple herrania

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds - drink

The white aril or layer around the seeds is eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It grows 2-5 m tall. The young branches are hairy. The leaves are simple and alternate. They have lobes like fingers on a hand. The leaves are 46 cm long by 17 cm wide. They are pointed at the top and wedge shaped at the base. The fruit are 8-10 cm long by 4-6 cm wide. They are narrowly oval and have 10 long ridges along them. They are pale green at maturity.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. In Central America it grows between 50-400 m altitude. It grows in lowland forests. It grows in moist to dry sites.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

NOTES

Also as Sterculiaceae and Byttneriaceae family.

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