PLANT FACT SHEET

Dialium polyanthum Pellegr.

GENUS *Dialium* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

DESCRIPTION

A large tree. It grows 30-65 m high. The trunk can be 30 m long. It has buttresses and is about 1 m across. The trunk can be fluted. The leaves have leaflets along the stalk. There are about 5 leaflets and they are 10 cm long by 4 cm wide. They have a wedge shaped base and edges that curve back. They are shiny dark green. The fruit are black oval berries about 3 cm across. There is one seed.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in evergreen rain-forest and semi-deciduous forest in West Africa. It is usually on river banks. It can grow in poor acid soils.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seeds. They can germinate in shade but seedlings need to be in the sunlight.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Central African Republic plants have been recorded flowering in April and May and fruiting in September and October.

NOTES

Also as Caesalpinaceae.

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