PLANT FACT SHEET

Poisonous

This plant, or parts of it, can be poisonous. Do not eat it unless you know which parts are safe and how they must be prepared.

Food Plants International: Caution - toxic

Guarea guidonia (L.) Sleumer

GENUS *Guarea* **FAMILY** Meliaceae

COMMON NAMES American muskwood

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Sap, Fruit

Small drops of the toxic sap are added to a fermented drink made form cassava to increase the alcohol content.
Caution: Alcohol is a cause of cancer.
Occasionally the pulp of the fruit is eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or tree. The trunk is straight but branches often. The leaves are compound with an even number of leaflets along the stalk. There are usually 8-10 pairs of narrow opposite leaflets. They are pointed at the tip. The fruit is a capsule with 4 or 5 valves. The seeds are covered with an orange red pulp.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in the forest. In Argentina it grows below 500 m below sea level.

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USDA Plants Database

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/971e24a1-14db-48d2-924a-a79edac5599f