PLANT FACT SHEET

Pachira glabra Pasq.

GENUS *Pachira* **FAMILY** Malvaceae

COMMON NAMES Saba nut, Glabrous pachira

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Nuts, Vegetable, Leaves

The seeds are eaten fresh, boiled or roasted.
The young leaves are cooked and eaten as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It grows 17 m high. The trunk is bright green. The leaves have 5-7 leaflets. The leaves have long leaf stalks. The flowers come out at night. They have light green strap-like petals. The stamen are white and curved. The fruit is a green capsule 12.5 cm long. It contains many large seed. It is like a cocoa pod. There are 10-24 seeds.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It is native to Central America. It grows on alluvial plains and lowland rainforests. It suits humid locations. In Townsville BG. At ECHO.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. Cuttings or air-layering can also be used. The seeds are harvested from the fruit once they are open. Seeds are sown when fresh. They germinate in 5-10 days. The rate of germination is high. Seedlings can be transplanted into the field in 4 months.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Plants grow quickly. They can be 3.5 m tall in 2 years.

NOTES

Also put in the family Bombacaceae. In the subfamily Bombacoideae.

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