PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Picrasma excelsa* (Sw.) Planch.

**GENUS** *Picrasma* **FAMILY** Simaroubaceae

**COMMON NAMES** Jamaica quassia, Bitter ash

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Wood - flavouring

An extract from the wood is used in bitter tonics and liqueurs. It is also use commercially to flavour baked goods, candies, and frozen dairy products. It has been used to increase the bitterness or orange marmalade. It has been used as a substitute for hops.

## DESCRIPTION

A shrub or tree. It grows 6-25 m tall.

## HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows between 90-825 m above sea level. It grows in forests and near water.

## PRODUCTION

### Cultivation

Plants can be grown from fresh seeds and by semi-ripe cuttings.

## NOTES

There are 9 Picrasma species.
Also put in the family Picramniaceae.
It is an at risk species.

## REFERENCES


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**ONLINE FACT SHEET** https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/9d2f96fc-3fbc-4973-a2f4-cfdade79458a