PLANT FACT SHEET

Geoffroea spinosa Jacq.

GENUS *Geoffroea* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Umari

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds

The unripe fruit are boiled in water.
The ripe fruit are cooked in the fire or in the ashes.
The fruit are boiled and the kernels are like beans.

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It grows 6-12 m tall. The branches are horizontal and the crown is tall. The trunk is upright and has channels along it. It is 30-50 cm across. The leaves are alternate and compound. They are 3-6.5 cm long. There are 7-9 leaflets that are opposite. The leaflets are 1-2.5 cm long by 0.6-0.9 cm wide. The flowers are in groups 8-9 cm long in the axils of leaves. The flowers are yellow and scented. The fruit is a fleshy pod with one seed. It has thick sweet pulp.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. In Argentina it grows from sea level to 2,500 m above sea level. It grows in northeast Brazil in flooded lowlands.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

The ripe fruit are harvested and put in plastic bags for a few days to soften the flesh and make it easier to remove the seed. Fresh seed should be planted and they germinate in 3-6 weeks.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Plants grow at a moderate rate.

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