PLANT FACT SHEET

Edibility uncertain
It has not been confirmed that this plant is safe to eat. Do not eat it on the strength of this fact sheet alone.

Pritchardia thurstonii F. v. Mueller & Drude

GENUS *Pritchardia* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

COMMON NAMES Lauan fan palm

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

DESCRIPTION

A medium sized palm. It grows to 10 m tall. The trunk is 20 cm across. It has vertical cracks. The trunk is brown and ringed. It has a large crown. The leaf stalks are 1 m long and the leaf blade is 1 m across. They are fan shaped. The leaves are light green, stiff and pleated. The flowering stalk is long and hangs well clear of the leaves. It is 2 m long. It extends beyond the leaves. Only a single flowering branch occurs in a stalk. The flowering stalk extends well out beyond the leaves. The fruit are small and round. They are dark red when ripe. They are 6-7 mm across.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It suits coastal locations. It grows in hot, dry places on coral and limestone soils in Fiji. It can tolerate salt laden winds. They need very good drainage. They will not grow on clay soils. It does best in full sun. It suits hardiness zones 11-12. In Townsville Queens garden.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. Seed germinate readily.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It is slow growing.

NOTES

There are about 40 Pritchardia species.

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