PLANT FACT SHEET

Baikiaea insignis Benth.

GENUS *Baikiaea* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Seeds

DESCRIPTION

An evergreen tree. It grows 35 m high and spreads 5 m wide. The trunk is erect and branching. The bark is thin and grey-brown. The leaves have leaflets along the stalk. The leaf stalk is 4-17 cm long and there are 3-8 leaflets. These are 7-40 cm long by 3-17 cm wide. The leaves are stiff and leathery. The flowers have 5 petals and the flowers occur in groups. There are 4 large white petals 6-10 cm long and a more narrow yellow petal. The fruit are flat woody pods. These are 25 cm long by 7 cm wide. They hang down. They burst open and twist to release dark red seeds. These are flat and rounded and 3.5 cm long.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It needs a deep, humus-rich well-drained soil. It grows in lowlands and lower mountain forests,

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. The seed are soaked overnight before planting.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Trees are slow growing.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/9e9e0a5b-1d43-48e3-b7b2-ebbe7a92dc8e