PLANT FACT SHEET

Casearia rupestris Eichler

GENUS *Casearia* **FAMILY** Salicaceae

COMMON NAMES Pururuca

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are eaten fresh.

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It grows 4-7 m high. The crown is a pyramid shape. The tips of the branches have a white covering. The trunk has grooves. It is 15-30 cm across. The leaves are papery. They are 7-12 cm long and 4-7 cm wide. The fruit are round and open in 3 valves. They are 2-3 cm across.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in broadleaf, semi-deciduous forest in Brazil.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. The ripe fruit are harvested and put in the shade to completely open. The seeds are then washed and dried. The fresh seed are harvested and germinate in 3-6 weeks. The seedlings can be transplanted into the field after 6-8 months.

Harvesting and Seed Production

The plants grow at a moderate rate.

NOTES

There are 160-180 Casearia species. They are mostly in South America. 75 occur in tropical America. They have also been put in the plant family Flacourtiaceae.

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