PLANT FACT SHEET

Salacca affinis Griff.

GENUS *Salacca* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

COMMON NAMES Linsum palm, Red salak, Snake palm

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Cabbage

The fruit are eaten. They are sour. They are flavoured then eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A prickly clumping palm. Most parts have spines. These are 3-6 cm long. The stems are underground. Leaves are about 2.5-4 m long. They are held erect. They grow in rings from short trunks which lie along the ground. The leaflets are smooth and broad. They are 45 cm long by 10 cm wide. They occur in clusters of 2-4 on each side of the stalk. They are held in one plane. The fruit are 4 cm long and scaly. They have a sweet edible pulp. They have a short nipple like tip.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in shady forests. It grows in lowland and monsoonal rainforests and swamps.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Male and female plants are essential for fertile seed production.

NOTES

There are about 18-24 Salacca species. They occur in SE Asia.

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