PLANT FACT SHEET

Pterocarpus soyauxii Taub.

GENUS *Pterocarpus* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Camwood, African coralwood

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Vegetable

The young leaves and young shoots are cooked as a vegetable and used in soups.

DESCRIPTION

A tall tree. The trunk is 25 m tall and 1.5 m across. The leaves are alternate and compound. The leaves are 20-25 cm long. There are 11-17 leaflets along the stalk that are 7-8 cm long by 2.5-3 cm wide. The flowers are bright yellow. The fruit is a round pod. It has a membrane layer around it. They are 7 cm across. There is one seed.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in evergreen or deciduous forests. It grows between 50-500 m above sea level. It is best with an annual rainfall of 1,500-1,700 mm. It is best in a sunny position and a moist well-drained soil.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown by seeds. Seeds should be soaked in cold water overnight. Seeds germinate in about 7 days. Plants can be budded. Plants can be grown from stem cuttings.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Seedlings grow quickly. There is a flush of edible leaves during the dry season.

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