PLANT FACT SHEET

Bombax insigne Wall.

GENUS *Bombax* **FAMILY** Malvaceae

COMMON NAMES Showy silk cotton tree, White silk cotton tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Flowers

The roasted fruit are eaten.
The flowers are used as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

A large tree. It loses its leaves during the year. It grows 10 m high and spreads 3 m wide. The stem is erect and stout. The leaves are divided like fingers on a hand. There are 5-7 oval leaflets that taper to the tip. They are green. The flowers are bright pink to red and open with 5 petals. The fruit are brownish oblong pods.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It needs a light, rich, moist, well-drained soil. It needs a protected sunny position. It is damaged by drought and frost.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seeds. The seeds need treatment before planting.

NOTES

Also put in the family Bombacaceae. In the subfamily Bombacoideae.

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/a87f7500-9c70-4933-9a86-33da40db678e