PLANT FACT SHEET

Celtis philippensis Blanco

GENUS *Celtis* **FAMILY** Cannabaceae

COMMON NAMES Hard celtis tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds - oil, Seed

The fruit are eaten raw when ripe.
The seed oil is edible.

DESCRIPTION

A medium sized tree. It grows 4-10 m tall. It often has buttresses. It has a dense rounded crown. The tree can lose many of its leaves during the dry season of the year. The bark is smooth with a mottled cream grey pattern on it. The leaves are alternate and smooth. They are stiff and brittle. They are oval and about 3-12 cm long by 2-6 cm wide. The leaves are dark green above and paler underneath. There are 3 easy to see veins along the leaf. These are raised and white, underneath the leaf. The leaves have a pointed tip and short stalk (1 cm). The young leaves have teeth along the edge. The flowers are small and white and 2-3 mm across. They occur in small clusters (2 cm across) in the axils of leaves. Flowers of one or both sexes can occur on the same plant. The fruit are smooth and fleshy. They are round but flattened. They can be 0.7-1 cm across. They are yellow, but bright red when ripe. They contain a single hard shelled seed. The seed can be 6 mm across.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in coastal monsoon forests. It can be on sand dunes and is often near permanent water. It grows up to 1,200 m above sea level. It needs well drained soil. It suits hardiness zones 10-12. In XTBG Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from fresh seed.

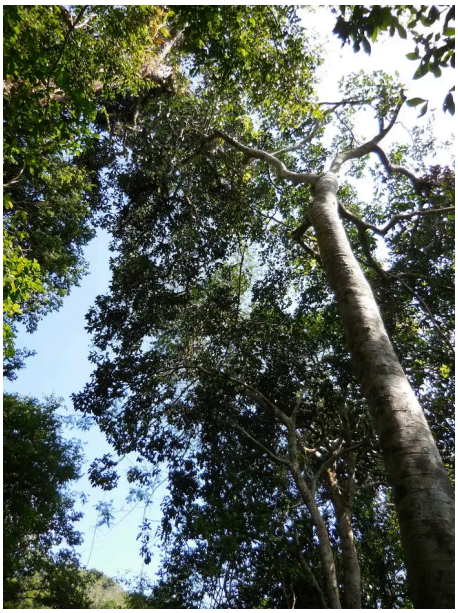
Harvesting and Seed Production

In northern Australia plants flower from October to January and fruit mainly from April to August.

NOTES

There are 70-100 Celtis species. They are mostly in the tropics. There are 8-10 species in tropical America. Also put in the family Ulmaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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