PLANT FACT SHEET

Ptychococcus paradoxus (Scheff.) Becc.

GENUS *Ptychococcus* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

COMMON NAMES Wrinkled fruit palm

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Shoots, Cabbage, Palm heart

The embryo of the young fruit is eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A solitary palm. They do not have thorns. The stems are 15 m tall and 25 cm across. The leaves are feathery. They are dark green and spreading with leaflets along the stalk. The leaflets are regularly arranged and narrow. They have a long crown-shaft. The flowering stalk comes from below the crown-shaft. The flowers are of one sex but both sexes occur on the one plant. The flowers are yellow. The fruit is black and 1.2 cm across. Each fruit contains a single seed.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. They grow as understorey plants in lowland rainforests and along streams. They need good drainage.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. Fresh seed take about 3 months to germinate.

NOTES

There are 2-7 Ptychococcus species. They are in PNG and the Solomons.

REFERENCES

Ann. Jard. Bot. Buitenzorg 2:96. 1885

Baker, W.J. and Dransfield, J., 2006, Field Guide to Palms of New Guinea. Kew p 96

Barfod, A.S., Banka R., and Dowe, J. L., 2001, Field Guide to Palms in Papua New Guinea. AAU Reports 40 Department of Systematic Botany University of Aarhus. Denmark. p 46

French, B.R., 2010, Food Plants of Solomon Islands. A Compendium. Food Plants International Inc. p 286

Haynes, J., & McLaughlin, J., 2000, Edible palms and Their Uses. University of Florida Fact sheet MCDE-00-50-1 p 12

Jones, D.L., 1994, Palms throughout the World. Smithtonian Institution, Washington. p 56, 318

Leach, G. J., 1988, Bush Food Plants of the Blackwater and Karawari Rivers Area, East Sepik Province, Papua New Guinea. Science in New Guinea 14(2). p 104 (As Ptychococcus sp. - Presumably this species)

Riffle, R.L. & Craft, P., 2003, An Encyclopedia of Cultivated Palms. Timber Press. p 425

Sukarya, D. G., (Ed.) 2013, 3,500 Plant Species of the Botanic Gardens of Indonesia. LIPI p 809

World Checklist of Useful Plant Species 2020. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

Zona, S., 2005, A revision of Ptychococcus (Arecaceae). Systematic Botany 30:520-529

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/adcc9fbd-c90d-4b34-a4e3-02e1687124c9