PLANT FACT SHEET

Cassia javanica L.

GENUS *Cassia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Pink-and-white shower, Apple-blossum Cassia

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Leaves, Vegetable

Seeds chewed with betel pepper leaves.

DESCRIPTION

A tree up to 15 m tall. The bark is brown and smooth. The branches are spreading giving an umbrella like crown. It loses its leaves during the year. The leaves are feathery and 15-30 cm long. They are made up of 8-14 pairs of leaflets. The leaflets are 3-5 cm long. They are oval and rounded at the tip. They have short stalks. They are smooth and soft to touch. The flowers are pink and in clusters of about 10 flowers. They are on long slender stalks. The pods are 20-60 cm long and contain 50-75 seeds. The seeds are black and corky and 1-1.5 cm across. They are greenish-brown.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It is native to Indonesia. It grows in the plains in India. It suits hardiness zones 11-12. In XTBG Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds. The seeds need treatment to break the hard seed coat. Plants can also be grown by softwood cuttings.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Plants are fairly short lived.

NOTES

There are 100 Cassia species. This group has been revised to a smaller more consistent group. Also as Caesalpinaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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