PLANT FACT SHEET

Calamus tenuis Roxb.

GENUS *Calamus* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

COMMON NAMES Wai nyair

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Shoots, Fruits, Seeds, Stems

The soft inner section of the young shoots is eaten as a vegetable. They are cooked. The harvested shoots can be stored for 7-8 days.
The ripe fruit and seeds are eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A rattan. It is a climbing plant. It grows in clumps. The stems are very large. It has spines. The leaves are alternate. The leaves have leaflets along them. They are 45-75 cm long. There are 20-30 leaflets on each side. They are 30 cm long and 1.5 cm wide. The leaflets are pale green. The leaf stalk has curved spines underneath. The fruit is fleshy and round or oval. It is covered with scales.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. In Indochina it grows in scrub often in areas that flood regularly. It grows in swampy forest. It grows between 200-300 m altitude.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Nagaland fruit are available November to December.

NOTES

There are 375-400 Calamus species. There are 175 species in tropical Asia.

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