PLANT FACT SHEET

Lecythis chartacea O. Berg.

GENUS *Lecythis* **FAMILY** Lecythidaceae

COMMON NAMES Parchment like monkeypot tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Nuts

The seeds without the shell are eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 8-30 m tall. The crown is round. The trunk is upright and 70-80 cm across. The bark is thick and has cracks along it. It breaks off in rectangular plates. The leaves are simple and alternate. They are 7-11 cm long by 2-6 cm wide. The leaf stalks are 6-12 mm long and hairy. There are 9-14 pairs of side veins. The flowers are in groups at the ends of branches. The flowers are white and have a scent. The fruit is hard with an opening lid. It is 4-4.5 cm long. It has a few seeds.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in dryland forest in the Amazon in Brazil.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. The ripe fruit are harvested and put in the sun to fully open. The fresh seed are planted and germinate in 4-7 weeks.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/b777de2e-9cfd-4bcd-a67c-579cc44e6cef