PLANT FACT SHEET

Vitex stahelii Moldenke

GENUS *Vitex* **FAMILY** Lamiaceae

COMMON NAMES Stahel chastetree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 45 m high. The trunk is 30-60 cm across. There are spur roots near the base. The leaves are opposite. The leaves have 5 leaflets. They are arranged like fingers on hand. The leaf stalks are 5-13 cm long. The flower panicles are 2-5 cm long and 1-2 cm wide. The fruit is round and fleshy. It is 1.7 cm across. It is green and turns reddish with green dots. The pulp is edible. The covering of the nut is 1.2 cm long by 1 cm wide and has grooves along it.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in upland rainforest.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown by seeds.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Guyana it flowers March to April and fruits May to July.

NOTES

Also put in the family Verbenaceae.

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