PLANT FACT SHEET

Pouteria pierrei (A. Chev.) Baehni

GENUS *Pouteria* **FAMILY** Sapotaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows to 40 m high. The trunk is 1.2 m across. It does not have branches until 25 m up the trunk. The trunk is straight and cylinder shaped with buttresses near the base. These can be 3 m high. The leaves are simple and entire and arranged in spirals. The leaves are densely hairy underneath. The leaves are oval and 8-15 cm long by 4-6 cm wide. The side veins are orange coloured. The flowers are in groups in the axils of the fallen leaves. The flower stalks are hairy and 3 cm long. The fruit are round berries 1.5-2 cm long. They turn red when ripe. They are finely hairy. The seeds are oval and 1.3 cm long.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in rainforest. It suits humid locations. It also grows in semi-deciduous forest.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seeds. Seeds germinate in 2-3 weeks.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Seedlings grow slowly. In Sierra Leone fruit are ripe in February and March.

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