PLANT FACT SHEET

Picrasma javanica Blume

GENUS *Picrasma* **FAMILY** Simaroubaceae

COMMON NAMES Bitterwood tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Vegetable

The leaves are cooked and eaten as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 24 m tall. The trunk is 35 cm across. The bark is smooth and brittle. The leave are compound with 5-7 leaflets. The leaflets are 4-20 cm long by 1-10 cm wide. They are wedge shaped at the base and taper to the tip. The flowers are in compound groups in the axils of leaves. These are 20 cm long and male and female flowers are separate. Female flowers are twice as long as the male. The flowers are white to yellow. The fruiting body has 1-4 fruit. These are fleshy and oval or a flattened round shape. They are 9-10 mm long by 7-12 mm wide.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in the rainforest up to 1,500 m above sea level. In Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

NOTES

It is an unresolved name in The Plant List.

REFERENCES

Sukarya, D. G., (Ed.) 2013, 3,500 Plant Species of the Botanic Gardens of Indonesia. LIPI p 446

Xu, You-Kai, et al, 2004, Wild Vegetable Resources and Market Survey in Xishuangbanna, Southwest China. Economic Botany. 58(4): 647-667.

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