PLANT FACT SHEET

Chrysophyllum gonocarpum (Martius & Eichler) Engler

GENUS *Chrysophyllum* **FAMILY** Sapotaceae

COMMON NAMES Aguai chico, Angledfruit starapple

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The pulp of the fruit is used in sweet dishes.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 8-10 m high. The trunk is 40-50 cm across. It has a dense crown of leaves. The leaves are alternate and in groups near the ends of branches. The leaf stalk is 1.5-2 cm long. The leaves are 14-17 cm long by 4-6 cm wide. They are oval or sword shaped. The fruit is round and 1.5-2 cm across. It is divided into 5 compartments. The seeds are oval.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. In Argentina it grows from sea level to 2,000 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed. The ripe fruit are harvested and put in a heap to help the flesh decompose and make the seeds easier to remove. They are then washed with running water. Seeds can be stored for about 6 months. Fresh seed should be planted. They germinate in about 20-30 days.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Plants grow slowly.

NOTES

There are about 80-150 Chrysophyllum species. They are mostly in tropical America. There are 44 species in tropical America.

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