PLANT FACT SHEET

Hyphaene dichotoma (White) Furtado

GENUS *Hyphaene* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

COMMON NAMES Indian doum palm

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, seeds, Nuts

The fibrous mesocarp is eaten.
The unripe kernel is eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A branched palm. It can form clusters. It branches 3 or 4 times. It can grow 15 m tall. The leaf crowns are large and round. The leaves are deep green. The leaf blade is almost round and over 1 m long. It is divided into about 40 segments. The leaf stalk is about 1 m long. It is armed with black spines. Male and female flowers are on separate trees. The female trees bear clusters of pear shaped brown fruit. They are about 7 cm across. They are deep orange-brown. These are edible. The seed is 3.5 cm long by 2.5 cm wide.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It suits the tropics and subtropics. It grows in open savannas at low altitudes in India. It can tolerate in colder drier places. It grows naturally in coastal sands. It can grow in arid places.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed. The seed are sown in sandy beds.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It grows slowly.

NOTES

There are about 9 or 10 Hyphaene species. (Some authorities estimate 40).

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/c3fbedf3-1df9-4f04-b682-c2dfe9fd2a29