PLANT FACT SHEET

Inga vera Willd.

GENUS *Inga* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES River koko

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit - aril, pod

The sweet pulp around the seeds is eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

An evergreen tree. It grows 12-20 m tall. The crown is widely spreading. The trunk can be 30-100 cm across. The leaves are alternate in 2 rows. The leaves are compound with 3-7 pairs of leaflets. There is a tiny round gland between each pair of leaflets. The leaflets are oblong and 5-15 cm long by 3-7 cm wide. The flowers are in clusters of 1-4. They are at the base of the leaf or at the ends of twigs. The fruit are pods. They are 10-20 cm long by 1-2 cm wide.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in moist forests. It grows between 60-700 m above sea level. It grows in the humid lowland forest. It grows best in areas with a daytime temperature between 18-28°C and an average annual rainfall between 1,200-4,000 mm. It is best in soils with a pH between 6-8.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seeds. They can be grown in a nursery and then planted out after 3-4 months.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Trees flower and fruit throughout the year.

NOTES

Also as Mimosaceae.

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