PLANT FACT SHEET

Pouteria laevigata (Martius) Radlkofer

GENUS *Pouteria* **FAMILY** Sapotaceae

COMMON NAMES Smooth pouteria

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 50 m tall. The trunk is 65 cm across. Young shoots have a few fine hairs. The bark is pale grey and finely cracked. The leaves are loosely clustered towards the tips and arranged in spirals. The leaves are 6-18 cm long by 4-7 cm wide. They are broadly sword shaped and there are 9-13 pairs of secondary veins. The flowers are in groups in the axils usually of fallen leaves. There are 2-15 flowers in a group. The flowers are cream to white. The fruit are 6-9 cm long and oval. They contain several seeds. These are about 4 cm long.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in lowland forests on non flooded sites but also in places that are occasionally flooded. It grows between 100-400 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

Flowers occur February to June but can occur all year round.

NOTES

There are about 150-320 Pouteria species. They grow in the tropics.

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