PLANT FACT SHEET

Saraca declinata (Jack) Miq.

GENUS *Saraca* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Red saraca

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Seeds, Fruit, Flowers

The young leaves are eaten.
The flowers are used in soups.

DESCRIPTION

A tree 8-10 m tall. It can be 30 m high. The trunk is 60 cm across. The leaves are 18-50 cm long. There are 4-6 pairs of leaflets. The lowest pair clasp the twig. The leaflets are 9-35 cm long by 3-14 cm wide. They taper to the tip. New leaves appear as purplish-brown soft drooping leaflets. The flower cluster is 5-20 cm wide. The flowers are 13-28 mm across. They are yellow but turn red. They have a purple eyespot. The pod is large and flattened. It is 10-32 cm long by 2.5-6.5 cm wide. It is green. The seeds are thin and flattened. They are 3.5 cm long by 6.5 cm wide.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It is native to Malaysia and Indonesia. It grows in dense forests. It needs a sheltered site, adequate moisture, light shade and a well-drained fertile soil. In Cairns Botanical Gardens.

NOTES

Also as Caesalpinaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

REFERENCES

Ambasta S.P. (Ed.), 2000, The Useful Plants of India. CSIR India. p 550

Argent, G et al, nd, Manual of the Larger and More important non Dipterocarp Trees of Central Kalimantan Indonesia. Volume 2 Forest Research Institute, Samarinda, Indonesia. p 369

Barwick, M., 2004, Tropical and Subtropical Trees. A Worldwide Encyclopedic Guide. Thames and Hudson p 365

Burkill, I.H., 1966, A Dictionary of the Economic Products of the Malay Peninsula. Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Vol 2 (I-Z) p 1999

Chai, P. P. K. (Ed), et al, 2000, A checklist of Flora, Fauna, Food and Medicinal Plants. Lanjak Entimau Wildlife Sanctuary, Sarawak. Forestry Malaysia & ITTO. p 159, 168

Fl. Ned. Ind. 1(1):84. 1855; 1080. 1858

IUCN (2013). Ecological Survey of the Mekong River between Louangphabang and Vientiane Cities, Lao PDR, 2011-2012. Vientiane, Lao PDR: IUCN. 241 pp.

Phon, P., 2000, Plants used in Cambodia. © Pauline Dy Phon, Phnom Penh, Cambodia. p 548

Staples, G.W. and Herbst, D.R., 2005, A tropical Garden Flora. Bishop Museum Press, Honolulu, Hawaii. p 334

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/ce2630cb-698c-453f-ad83-787ab0d164cf