PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Calamus guruba* Buch.Ham. ex Mart.

**GENUS** *Calamus* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Shoots, Fruit

The spiny stem is removed and the young pith cooked with shrimp.
The pulp of the ripe fruit is eaten.

## DESCRIPTION

A rattan. It can be climbing or form thickets. The stems are in clusters. The canes can be 20 m long and 3 cm across. The leaf sheath is dull green. It has light brown hairs. It has spines 3.5 cm long that point upwards. The leaf shoots are 1.3 m long and there are 30-65 narrow leaflets on each side. They are arranged regularly. The flowering shoots are 3 m long. The fruit are round and 0.8 cm across. They are yellow or brown.

## HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. In Laos it grows in scrub forest often near rivers. It grows between 100-750 m altitude. It can be up to 1,200 m above sea level. It grows in lowland rain forest and in dry forest. In Yunnan.

## PRODUCTION

### Harvesting and Seed Production

In India fruit are produced March to December.

## NOTES

There are 375-400 Calamus species. There are 175 species in tropical Asia.
The cane is used for baskets and furniture.

## REFERENCES


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