PLANT FACT SHEET

Annona cacans Warm.

GENUS *Annona* **FAMILY** Annonaceae

COMMON NAMES Corticao

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit is eaten. It is used for juice, ice-cream and sweets.
CAUTION: The fruit is laxative if eaten in large amounts.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 12-16 m high. The crown is smooth and round. The trunk is 50-70 cm across. The bark is thick and peels off. It loses its leaves during the year. The leaves are simple and shiny. They have leaf stalks. The leaves are 8-17 cm long and 3-6 cm wide. The flowers are in the axils of leaves. They are usually in small groups. The fruit is large and oblong. It can be 14-15 cm long. The seeds are light brown and about 1 cm long. The pulp of the fruit is sweet and juicy.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in highland forests in Brazil. It grows from sea level to 1,500 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from fresh seed. The seeds are washed out of the ripe pulp with water. Seeds will only store for about 6 months. The dried seeds should be scratched to break the hard seed coat before sowing. Seeds germinate in 40-80 days. Seedlings are transplanted into the field after 6 months.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Plants grow rapidly. They can be 4 m high in 2 years.

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