PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Vasconcellea dodecaphylla* Vell.

**GENUS** *Vasconcellea* **FAMILY** Caricaceae

**COMMON NAMES** Jaracatia, Deer's papaya, Thorny papaya, Tree papaya

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Fruit

Fruit are eaten raw.
A 'milk' in the fruit is allowed to drain our or fruit are boiled, as this affects digestion.

## DESCRIPTION

A large tree up to 20 m high. The leaves are small, slender and deep green. They are made up of 5-8 leaflets. The fruit are yellow and oval. They have five lobes. They are a little like a rounded star fruit.

## HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. Plants grow naturally in savannah, along rivers and in forests in Brazil.

## PRODUCTION

### Cultivation

Plants are grown by seed.

## NOTES

There are at least 22-40 species of Carica.

## REFERENCES

Fl. flumin. 10. 1829 ("1825")
www.tradewindsfruit.com (As Carica)

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