PLANT FACT SHEET

Parkia biglandulosa Wight & Arn.

GENUS *Parkia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Badminton ball tree, African locust tree, Shuttlecock tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Fruit, Leaves

The seeds are usually boiled and made into cakes. They have a garlic like flavour.
The sprouting seedlings are eaten.
The contents of the pods are eaten.
The roasted seeds are used as a coffee substitute.

DESCRIPTION

A large deciduous tree. It grows 25 m tall. The bark is grey-brown and slightly rough. The leaves are twice feathered. There are up to 40 pairs of side stalks and up to 100 pairs of very small crowded leaflets on each side stalk. The flowers are small and clustered in tight heads. These are 4 cm across. These are on stalks about 25 cm long. The higher flowers are bisexual and the lower flowers are male. The fruit is a long flat pod. It is on a very long stalk.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in mixed forests up to 1,500 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

NOTES

Also as Mimosaceae.

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/dad3a14b-8dbf-4e0b-b6bb-068658deb13b