PLANT FACT SHEET

Astrocaryum standleyanum L. H. Bailey

GENUS *Astrocaryum* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

COMMON NAMES Tucan nuts, Black palm

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Nuts, Seeds, Fruit, Palm hearts, Cabbage

The fruit are eaten.
The palm hearts are eaten.
The seedlings are eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A spiny palm. It grows 6-15 m high. The trunk is 16-22 cm across. It has a solitary trunk and a crown of dark green leaves. The leaves are feather like but spiny. There are 11-18 leaves which spread horizontally and curve. They are 4 m long. The trunk is stout and covered with short, flat, black spines. The fruit are orange-red. They occur in large clusters which hang down on stalks. The hard seeds have star shaped marks on one end.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in lowland rainforest on poorly drained soils and usually below 200 m altitude.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Seeds are difficult to germinate.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Young plants grow at a steady rate.

NOTES

There are about 40-50 Astrocaryum species. The nuts are fed to farm animals.

REFERENCES

Balick, M.J. and Beck, H.T., (Ed.), 1990, Useful palms of the World. A Synoptic Bibliography. Colombia p 57, 225, 437, 561, 658,

Barfod, A. S. & Kvist, L. P., 1996, Comparative Ethnobotanical Studies of the Amerindian Groups in Coastal Ecuador. The Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters. p 77

Bircher, A. G. & Bircher, W. H., 2000, Encyclopedia of Fruit Trees and Edible Flowering Plants in Egypt and the Subtropics. AUC Press. p 46

Condit, R., et al, 2011, Trees of Panama and Costa Rica. PrincetonField Guides. p 78

Galeano, G., 2000, Forest Use at the Pacific Coast of Choco, Colombia: A Quantitative Approach. Economic Botany, Vol. 54, No. 3, pp. 358-376

Gentes Herb. 3:88. 1933

Gibbons, M., 2003, A pocket guide to Palms. Chartwell Books. p 42

Grandtner, M. M., 2008, World Dictionary of Trees. Wood and Forest Science Department. Laval University, Quebec, Qc Canada. (Internet database http://www.WDT.QC.ca)

Grandtner, M. M. & Chevrette, J., 2013, Dictionary of Trees, Volume 2: South America: Nomenclature, Taxonomy and Ecology. Academic Press p 50

Henderson, A., Galeano, G and Bernal, R., 1995, Field Guide to the Palms of the Americas. Princeton. p 206

Johnson, D.V., 1998, Tropical palms. Non-wood Forest products 10. FAO Rome. p 90

Kermath, B. M., et al, 2018, Food Plants in the Americas: A survey of the domesticated, cultivated and wild plants used for Human food in North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. p 131

Lopez-Diago, D. & Garcia, N., 2021, Wild edible fruits of Colombia. Biota ColomBiana 22 (2) p 30

Marcia, M. J., et al, 2011, Palm Uses in Northwestern South America: A Quantitative Review. Bot. Rev. (2011) 77:462-570

Menninger, E.A., 1977, Edible Nuts of the World. Horticultural Books. Florida p 126

Riffle, R.L. & Craft, P., 2003, An Encyclopedia of Cultivated Palms. Timber Press. p 41, 264

Roa, J. A. G. & Boada, D. S. G., 2018, Fundación para el Fortalecimiento de la Fruticultura y Plantas Alimenticias no Convencionales en Colombia.

Torre, de la L., et al, 2008, Enciclopedia de las Plantas Útiles del Ecuador. Herbario QCA. Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador. p 194

World Checklist of Useful Plant Species 2020. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

Zona, S., Heart of Palm Use: A Family Survey. p 1

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/e4f4509a-8642-463f-8fce-ef6e99dc2640