PLANT FACT SHEET

Adansonia za Baillon

GENUS *Adansonia* **FAMILY** Malvaceae

COMMON NAMES Za, Za boabab

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Roots, Fruit, Seeds, Vegetable

The pulp of the fruit is eaten.
The roots of seedlings is eaten.
The seeds are eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A large tree. It grows 30 m high. The trunk is thick and can be 3 m across. It narrows towards the crown. The bark is grey and smooth but with ridges. The crown is rounded. The leaves are compound with 3-7 leaflets. The leaflets are an oblong sword shape. They are 5-10 cm long by 2 cm wide. The middle leaflets are larger than the side ones. They have long leaf stalks. The flowers are bright yellow with a somewhat red base. The fruit are woody capsules 10-30 cm long by 5-15 cm wide. The seeds are flattened and kidney shaped.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It is native to Madagascar. It grows on sedimentary or crystalline rock. It grows from sea level to 600 m altitude.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. The germination of seeds is poor.

NOTES

There are 6-8 Adansonia species.
Also put in the family Bombacaceae. In the subfamily Bombacoideae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/e5e27dcf-72bf-4124-9834-2e40d0e7a884