PLANT FACT SHEET

Sterculia macrophylla Vent.

GENUS *Sterculia* **FAMILY** Malvaceae

COMMON NAMES Broad-leaved kepuh tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 40 m tall. The trunk can be 1.5 m across. It can have buttresses 3m x 3m. They are spreading and sharp. The bark is silver-grey. The leaves are simple and have lobes like fingers on a hand. The leaves are broadly oval with 3-5 lobes, and the leaves are 12-40 cm long by 10-35 cm wide. The base is deeply heart shaped. The flowers are erect in groups in the axils of leaves or near the ends of branches. The flowers are bell shaped with a greenish-yellow tube. The fruit are a star shaped pod with 3-5 sections. It is 3-8 cm long. It is velvety brown and bright red inside. It splits open. The seeds are narrowly oval and 1-2.3 cm long. They are whitish-black.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in swamp forest. It grows up to 900 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Thailand it flowers and fruits between July to March.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/e98ca786-daa0-4ebb-9dab-986255e72946