PLANT FACT SHEET

Castanopsis orthocantha Franchet

GENUS *Castanopsis* **FAMILY** Fagaceae

COMMON NAMES Hairy conic chestnut

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Nuts, Seeds

The nuts are eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 10-15 m high but can be 20 m high. The leaf stalk is about 1 cm long. The leaf blade is oval or sword shaped and is 7-14 cm long by 2.5-5 cm wide. It is leathery. The base is rounded. There can be teeth along the edge. There are 9-13 side veins each side of the mid vein. There are 3 female flowers per cup. The flowering stalk is 15 cm long. The cup is 3-3.5 cm across. It splits into 4 segments. There are 1-3 nuts per cup. They are cone shaped. They are 1-1.5 cm across. They are densely hairy.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in mixed and broad leafed evergreen forest in southern China. It grows between 1500-3200 m altitude.

NOTES

There are about 120 Castanopsis species. Many have edible nuts.

REFERENCES

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