PLANT FACT SHEET

Sterculia oblonga Mast.

GENUS *Sterculia* **FAMILY** Malvaceae

COMMON NAMES Yellow Sterculia

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Condiment, Spice

The seeds are roasted and eaten. They can be roasted, ground and cooked with other foods.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 35 m tall. The trunk is 1 m across. The trunk is 15 m tall and can have small buttresses. The bark is smooth and grey. The leaves are alternate and simple and 12 cm long by 7 cm wide. They are wavy along the edge. The flowers are yellow to brown and hairy. The fruit are yellow to brown hairy follicles. They are 15 cm long by 7-10 cm wide. They are woody. The fruit splits open to reveal several seeds. There are 20 black seeds in a yellow layer. They have a thin yellow covering or aril.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in semi-deciduous forest. It grows in lowland rainforest. It grows between 600-1,000 m above sea level. It grows best on fertile, well-drained soil.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown by seeds. They are best planted in shade and germinate in about 12 days.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Central African Republic plants have been recorded flowering in September.

NOTES

Also put in the family Sterculiaceae.

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