PLANT FACT SHEET

Quassia simarouba L. f.

GENUS *Quassia* **FAMILY** Simaroubaceae

COMMON NAMES Bitterwood, Paradise-tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds - oil

The fruit are eaten raw.
The oil is used to make margarine and coking oil.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 16 m tall. The young leaves are deep rosy red. The flowers are white and small. They hang in huge yellow stemmed panicles. The fruit has a white pulp. The fruit are bitter and edible.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It is native to C. America and the West Indies. It grows in tropical America. It can tolerate drought. It can tolerate salt.

NOTES

There are about 35-42 Quassia species. Some authorities have only one Quassia. They are in Asia and Africa. There is one in tropical America.

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