PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Pouteria cuspidata* (A. de Candolle) Baehni

**GENUS** *Pouteria* **FAMILY** Sapotaceae

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Fruit

The pulp is sweet.

## DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows to 30 m high. The trunk is 60 cm across. There are slender buttresses 1.5 m high. The young shoots have soft hairs at first. The leaves are spaced. They are arranged in spirals. They are 6-15 cm long by 2.5-5 cm wide. The leaf stalk is 0.4-2 cm long. The flowers occur in tufts of 2-25 flowers in the axils of leaves or below the leaves. The flowers are on one sex with separate sexes on separate plants. The flowers are white to pale green. The fruit are 2.3-5.5 cm long. They are oval. They ripen to yellow or orange. There is one seed. The seed is 1.4-2,7 cm long. The pulp around the seed is edible.

## HABITAT

A tropical plant. It usually grows along the edges of rivers. It can occur on flooded land. It grows from sea level to 550 m altitude.

## NOTES

There are about 150-320 Pouteria species. They grow in the tropics.

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