



PLANT FACT SHEET

Alstonia scholaris (L.) R. Br.

GENUS *Alstonia* FAMILY Apocynaceae

COMMON NAMES Dita bark, Scholar tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Bark - spice, Latex, Sap, Fruit

The bark is used as a spice and to flavour liqueurs.

The latex is used for chewing gum.

DESCRIPTION

A tall tree. It grows 40 m tall. It has buttresses. The bark is brown and cracked. The leaves are spaced along the branches and are in rings. The leaves are entire and oval. They are dark green and blue-green underneath. The flowers are in the axils of leaves near the ends of branches. The flowers have a sweet scent. The fruit follicles are 30 cm long. The fruit are yellow to green and not fleshy. The seeds are about 5 mm long. They are rounded at both ends.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. It grows in the wet zone. It grows in coastal areas in Papua New Guinea. In southern China it grows between 200-1,000 m above sea level. In XTBG Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown by seeds or cuttings.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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