



PLANT FACT SHEET

Attalea maripa (Aubl.) Mart.

GENUS *Attalea* FAMILY Arecaceae

COMMON NAMES Maripa palm

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, seeds, Drink, Palm heart, Cabbage, Oil, Nuts

The fruit are used to produce a drink.

The terminal leaf-bud is eaten.

The fruit are eaten.

The outer husk of the fruit makes a kind of salty flour used to flavour food.

DESCRIPTION

A solitary palm. The stems are tall. They are 3.5-20 m tall. The trunks are 20-33 cm across. They can be 100 cm across. The fronds are 10 m long. There are 10-22 leaves. They are borne in 5 distinct vertical rows. They are on long leaf stalks. The leaflets are irregularly placed in tight clusters. They spread in different planes. The flowers are on long stalks borne among the leaves. The fruit have 2-3 seeds. They are oblong and 4-6 cm long by 2.5-3 cm wide. They are brownish-yellow. The pulp is sweet and juicy.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in lowland and secondary forest. It grows on non flooded soils. It grows at low elevations.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed.

NOTES

There are between (22) 30-71 *Attalea* species. Some authorities divide them among *Attalea*, *Orbignya*, *Scheelea* and *Maximiliana*.

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