**Euterpe precatoria L. The species**

Also known as:
Huasaí, açai-do-Amazonas.

**Geography**
Found in the southern Amazonian states of Peru (Madre de Dios), Brazil (Acre, Rhodônia) and Bolivia (Pando).

**Characteristics**
The huasaí fruit is small, round, black-purple in colour and produced in compound racemes of 500 to 900 fruits each. It is most often harvested in wild rainforests and grows in both flooded and non-flooded areas.

**Other uses**
Although less known and commercialized than its relative, *E. oleracea* (açai), huasaí has been shown to have the greatest antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties of the two. In addition, research has shown that açai oil, derived from the fruit pulp, may be used in cosmetics or as a nutritional supplement.

**Nutritional content**
- Vitamin C: 67 kCal per 100g
- Vitamin E: 67 kCal per 100g

**Forest trees agroforestry**
*E. precatoria* is compatible with agroforestry systems, especially in the south-western Amazon where it grows better and more reliably than its relative, *E. oleracea* (açai). The young trees prefer shaded conditions for the first few years, making them a good understory crop. After that, the tree is happy in the sun. As a mature palm tree, it does not cast much shade and grows straight.

**Wider commercialization**
Wider commercialization of huasaí fruit could generate additional income for many developing communities in the Amazon. The high demand for açai — a close relative of huasaí — in Western markets means there is already a good potential market for these fruits.

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