

Genipa americana L. The species

Also known as:

Genipap,
genipapo, jagua, huito,
marmalade box

Geography

Native to Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Guadeloupe, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela and the Virgin Islands (US).



Genipap The fruit



Vitamin
C

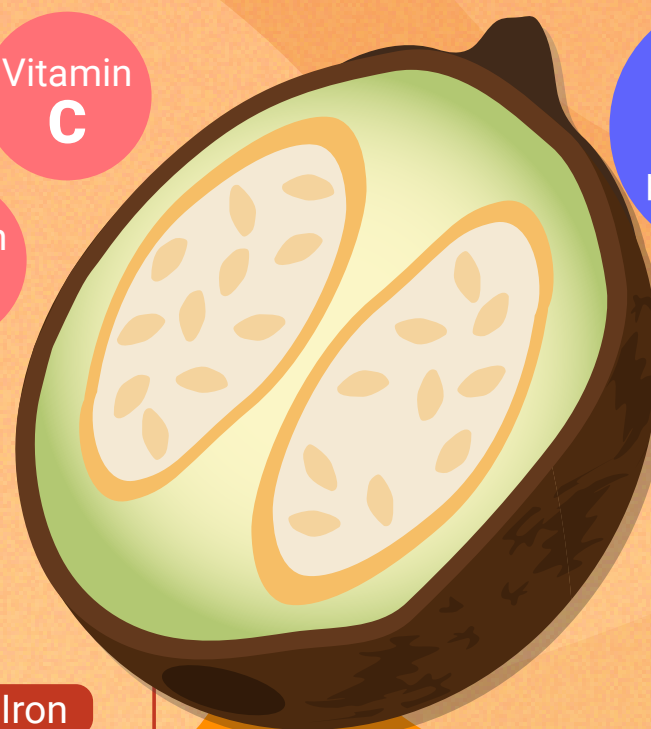
Vitamin
B₂

Vitamin
B₃

Calcium

Phosphorus

Iron



Energy:
87 kCal
per 100g EP

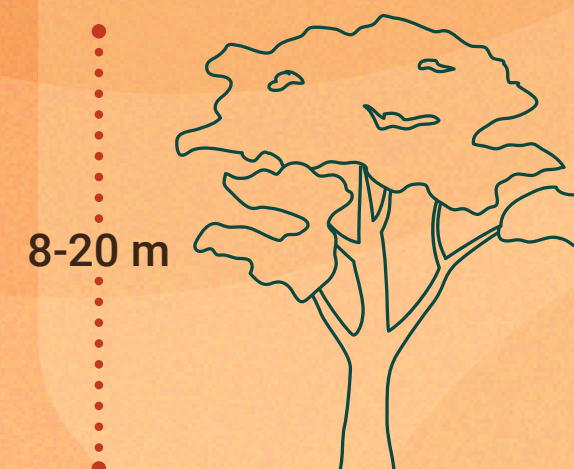
CHARACTERISTICS

Found especially in the 'varzeas' Amazon forest, a 100 g serving contains 20% of an adult's daily recommended iron intake and 37% of their vitamin C.

OTHER USES

It is used for tattooing and body paint, mosquito repellent, cosmetics and synthetic dyes. Genipap fruit has proven antibiotic properties and has been used in traditional medicine throughout many parts of Central and South America.

The tree



8-20 m

Maturity before yields
6 years

Pulp
used to make syrup, liqueurs, wines, jams and sorbets

Bark
rich in tannins, which can be used to treat leather

Wood
used in carpentry and light construction

Leaves
improve the soil, fodder for cattle

It is an important species in the **restoration of Brazilian riparian forests** and is one of the most promising fruit trees for **sustainable timber harvesting programs**.

The species can be interplanted in

agroforestry systems

with temporary crops such as cassava or cotton to provide shade for the plants. It may also be cultivated as a

live fence

in livestock grazing areas.