Non-timber forest products

of the North-West District of Guyana

Part II

A FIELD GUIDE

Tinde van Andel

Illustrations by Hendrik Rypkema

TROPENBOS-GUYANA SERIES 8b

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Back page: Boy picking duckweed flowers (*Nymphaea ampla*) for decoration.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 NON-TIMBER FOREST PRODUCTS

Guyana, a poor and sparsely populated country, harbours one of the world's last great undisturbed tracts of tropical rainforest. This forest is not only the homeland of a large variety of plant and animal species, but also of various indigenous tribes that have been relying on these biological resources for thousands of years. Their natural surroundings have always provided these Amerindians with food, shelter, household equipment, medicine, and many other non-timber forest products. Non-timber forest products (NTFPs) are defined here as all plant and animal products harvested from the forest, except for commercial timber. Today, the geographical isolation of the Amerindian communities Guyana's interior still makes modern medicine and synthetic goods unavailable or very expensive. As a result, many people still heavily depend on NTFPs for their livelihood.

Guyana's vast potential of NTFPs has only partly been developed commercially. A great variety of plant species is harvested from natural forests, but the majority is used for subsistence purposes only. Commercial extraction of NTFPs could add substantial economic value to the forest and may provide incentives to conservation and sustainable forest management (Clay, 1992; Hall and Bawa, 1993; Broekhoven, 1996). Many NTFPs can be harvested without much forest destruction, and thus maintaining essential environmental functions and preserving biodiversity (Plotkin and Famolare, 1992). Furthermore, NTFPs are assumed to be potential sources of new products, valuable for international trade. Some of the medicinal plants might contain new chemical compounds of importance to modern medicine and the pharmaceutical industry.

However, as in most tropical forests, the wealth of biodiversity in Guyana and the country's traditional inhabitants are under severe pressure from human encroachment and forest exploitation. Amerindians are often the only ones who know both the properties of the forest species and how they can best be utilised. Therefore, their knowledge must be considered an essential component of all efforts to conserve and develop the Amazonian forests (Gotlieb, 1981). However, strong influences from the outside world, such as logging, mining and missionary activities, are rapidly changing the traditional Amerindian culture. In this acculturation process, by some defined as 'civilisation', one of the first things to disintegrate is indigenous language. As most species used by forest people are known only by their indigenous names, the loss of native languages directly implies the loss of ethnobotanical knowledge. This has resulted in the sad phenomenon that in some areas the extensive knowledge of useful plants is disappearing even more rapidly than the plant species themselves. Practising shamans and their ritual knowledge have almost completely faded in Guyana, while youngsters are reluctant to learn the tools of the trade. In most communities, the information on plant use is scattered among elder men and women, who are often not aware of each other's knowledge.

1.2 AIMS AND METHODS OF THIS RESEARCH

The purpose of this study was to assess the importance of NTFPs in the daily lives of forest-dwelling people, and to understand their role in the regional economy of Guyana's North-West District (Figure 1.1). In the framework of the Tropenbos-Guyana programme, an extensive survey of NTFPs was carried out from 1995 to 1998. Detailed ethnobotanical inventories were made among the three Amerindian tribes in the region: Carib, Arawak, and Warao. The main study areas included the Carib village of Kariako (Barama River), the mixed Carib, Arawak, and Warao village of Koriabo (Barima River), the Arawak and Warao settlement of Assakata (Biara River), the Warao community of Warapoka (Waini River), and the large, predominantly Arawak village of Santa Rosa (Moruca River).

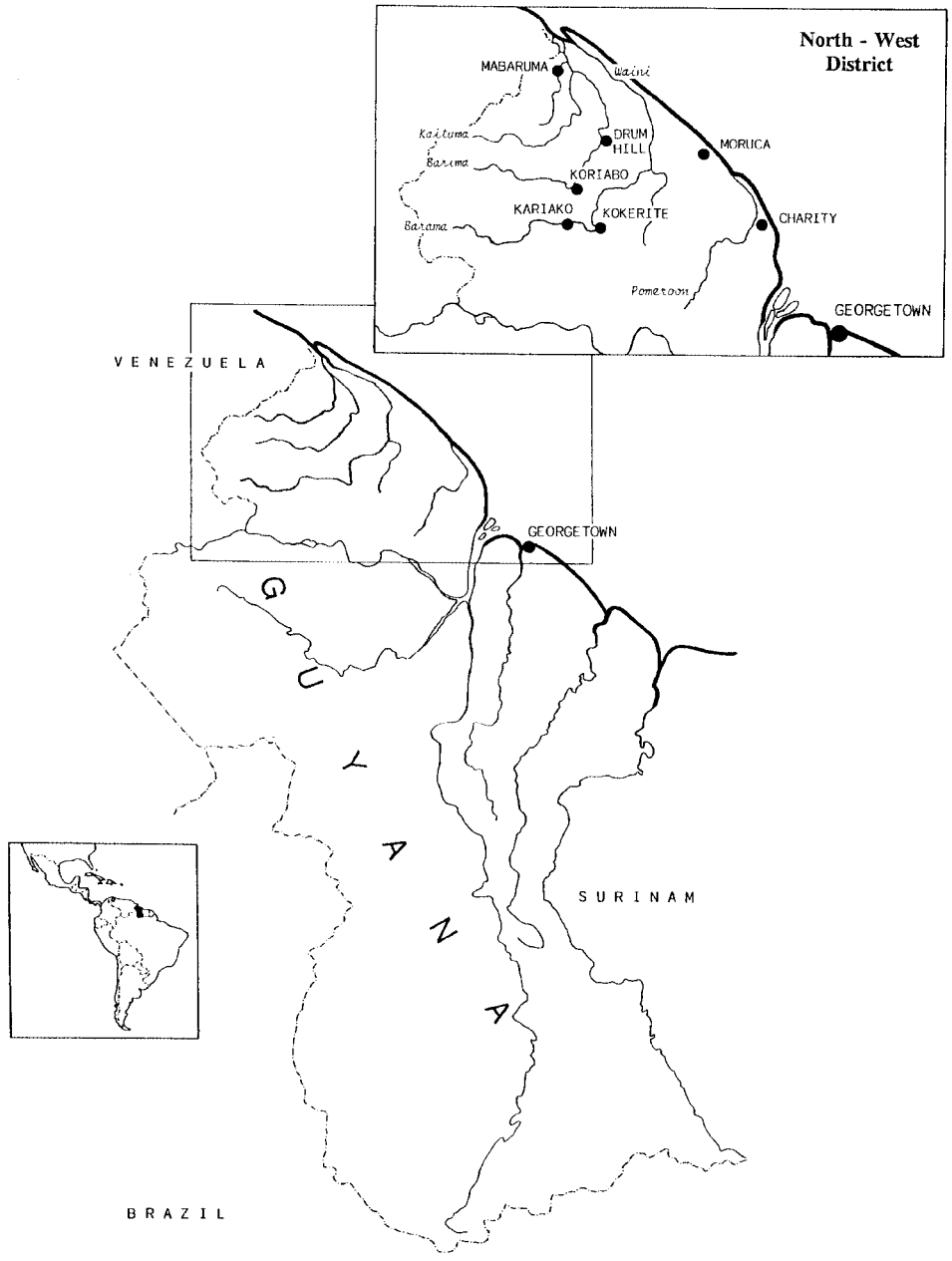

Figure 1.1 Map of Guyana. The North-West District is indicated in the rectangle. Drawing by H.R. Rypkema.

Additional information on plant use was recorded from Mabaruma, the lower Waini, Barima, and Kaituma Rivers, the upper Pomeroon River, Charity, and Georgetown (see Figure 1.2). To cover the widest variety of plants used by the Amerindian communities, the 'walk-in-the-woods' method as described in Prance et al. (1987) was combined with interviews and inventories in seven one-hectare plots in different vegetation types. Informants were chosen not only among adult men and women, but also among children and adolescents. Market surveys were held in Kariako, Santa Rosa, Charity, Mabaruma, and Georgetown. Export figures of NTFPs were calculated from commercial export invoices in the archives of the Guyana Forestry Commission. Duplicate specimens of all collected plants were deposited in the Herbarium of the University of Guyana (BRG) and the Utrecht branch of the National Herbarium of the Netherlands (U).

A total of 587 useful wild plants were recorded. The 85 most important NTFPs are treated in detail in this guide, with an illustration, a description of their botanical features, geographical distribution and ecology, and an extensive account of their local and regional uses. Another 471 species are described shortly, with only the uses found in the study area and without literature comparison. The remaining 31 species are used for firewood only and thus merely listed with their scientific and local names. The 85 major NTFP-producing species were selected on their commercial importance, their multiple uses, and their role in the subsistence activities of local people. Several plant species not yet recorded as NTFP in literature were treated in more detail. Special attention has been given to the genus *Inga*, because a total of 24 species within this genus were producing edible fruits in the region. Plant species providing useful wood were also included in this study, since indigenous people use wood for a wide variety of purposes (e.g., house construction, paddles, bows, tool handles, wooden utensils, medicine, fish poison, and firewood). If a species was used as commercial timber, this was only briefly indicated.

This book is an attempt to recapture and preserve ethnobotanical knowledge before it is lost forever. It has been written for all persons interested in the wealth of products that Guyana's rainforests have to offer, apart from just commercial timber. This guide may be of use to foresters, taxonomists, ecologists, inventory crews, forestry and botany students, eco-tourists, craft producers, local health workers, teachers, pharmaceuticals, persons interested in herbal medicine, people unable to afford modern medicine, and, last but not least, indigenous people themselves. Although this book is primarily focusing on northwest Guyana, many of the species can also be encountered in adjacent areas in Guyana, Venezuelan Guayana, Suriname, French Guiana, and Trinidad. It is hoped that the results of this study may enhance chances for conservation of the Guyanese forests, and alert phytochemists to the great potential of this biodiversity as a source of new medicinal compounds. Hopefully, this book may also increase the respect for the knowledge of those people that have been living and using the Guyanese forests for centuries.

1.3. HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

1.3.1 Scientific names

Scientific names are followed by the name of the author and the family. With reference to the synonyms, only those are mentioned which can frequently be encountered in literature, and thereby could cause confusion in daily practice. The 85 major NTFP-producing species are listed alphabetically by their scientific name.

1.3.2 Vernacular names

The vernacular names given are limited to the languages that are traditionally spoken in northwest Guyana: Creole (Cr), the English language as it is widely used in Guyana, and the three Amerindian languages: Arawak (Ar), Carib (C), and Warao (Wr). Occasionally, some Spanish (Sp) names that were commonly used along the Moruca River are given as well. These names were probably introduced by the so-called 'Spanish Arawaks', descendants of indigenous groups who migrated at the beginning of the 19th century from Venezuela, and still form a substantial part of the Arawak population of Santa Rosa (Pierre, 1988).

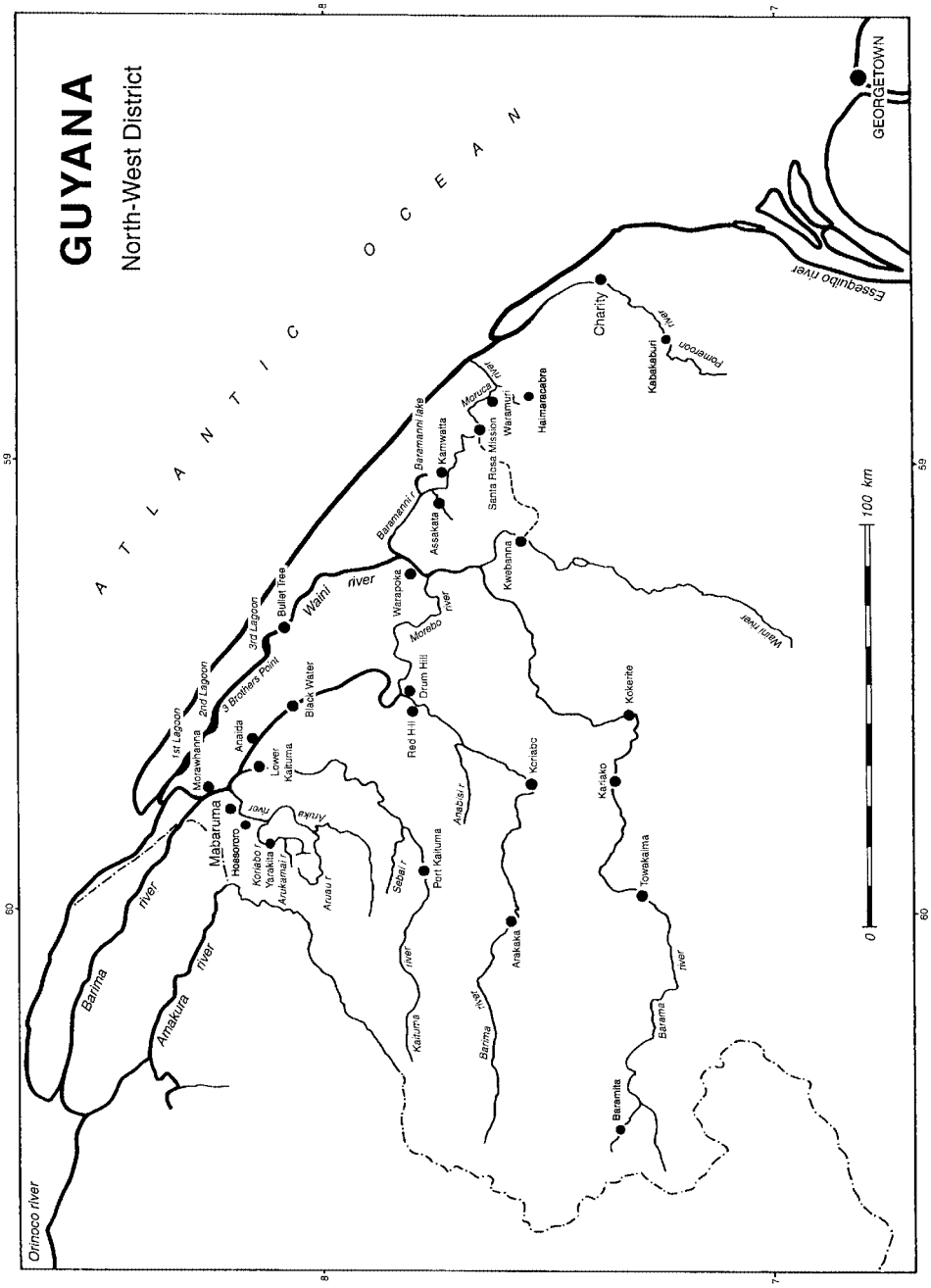

Figure 1.2 Map of the North-West District and Pomeroon region. Drawing by H.R. Rypkema.

People in the North-West District frequently travel to Venezuela to work or visit their relatives. As a result, the Spanish language is quite often heard in the region, which also is reflected in the local ethnobotany.

Although many commonly used vernacular names in Guyana come from the Arawak; the language itself is hardly spoken anymore (Forte, 1988). There is a tendency to corrupt Arawak names into Creole terms, like the Arawak name 'kufa' (*Clusia* spp.), which has turned into 'cooper' in Creole. Arawak names recorded in the field were checked with Fanshawe's exhaustive glossary of Arawak names of the North West and North Central districts (1949). If no Arawak name was recorded in the study area, names were taken from Fanshawe's list as well. For the spelling of Arawak names the R.S.G. II system was used, a phonetic system using consonants as pronounced in English and vowels as pronounced in Italian.

The Carib language is still widely spoken in the Barama-Barima region. Nearly all the Carib names given in this guide were supplied by local informants. The spelling was discussed with Dr. B.J. Hoff, Carib linguist at Leiden University. Carib names of plants that do not occur in the Barama-Barima region (mostly concerning species growing in brackish swamps, like *Humiria balsamifera*) were taken from literature (Ahlbrink, 1931; Flora of Suriname 1966-1984; Courtz, 1997). Since most of these Carib names were of Surinamese origin, there might be some inaccuracy in dialect. The spelling of Carib names was done according to the recommendations made by Hoff. The ï should be pronounced as the 'i' as in bird, but then with a nasal sound. The y is pronounced as the 'i' in the word 'drying'.

The Warao language is also still spoken, although not so actively as the Carib. Just a short period was spent among the Warao, and the plant names recorded from Warapoka (Waini) were supplied with Warao names from Reinders (1993), Charette (1980), the Flora of Venezuela (1964-1982), and the Flora of Venezuelan Guayana (1995-1999). Since few plant collectors in the Orinoco delta have paid attention to the Warao language, many names in this language are still to be recorded. Additional vernacular names were found on herbarium vouchers (U), in Mennega et al. (1988), and in the Flora of the Guianas (1985-1999). Many vernacular names used in the field are a combination of the Creole and Amerindian language (e.g., 'black asepoko', or 'swamp type of payawaru'). Although not linguistically pure, these are the names as local tree spotters know them, and therefore they are included in this guide. Whenever a translation of the indigenous name was provided by the informant or in literature, this is mentioned in the notes accompanying the particular species. The vernacular name most commonly used in northwest Guyana is given in the top line of the page with the description of the particular species and is used throughout the text. Although the vast majority of useful plant species occurring in the North-West District is covered, this guide is by no means totally exhaustive. Additions and corrections in species, local names and uses are welcomed and can be sent to the author's address.

1.3.3 Botanical description

In the botanical description, information is given on those plant parts that can generally be observed in the field or on herbarium sheets. Emphasis is put on those features likely to be encountered in northwest Guyana. The trunk diameters given are measured at breast height (1.30 m above the forest floor). When in doubt about a certain non-timber forest product in the field, it is advisable to make a collection of the particular plant, preferably with flowers and/or fruits. This specimen should then be compared with specimens in a Herbarium, preferably in those Herbaria where duplicates of the plants collected in this study have been deposited (BRG or U). Assistance from an experienced tree spotter is also a valuable support for those who want to become acquainted with the NTFP-producing species mentioned in this field guide.

1.3.4 Distribution and ecology

The general distribution of the treated species is taken from literature. The distribution in northwest Guyana is based on personal observations. Several forest types were sampled in detail: mixed primary forest, secondary forest (20 and 60 years old), seasonally flooded Mora forest, manicole swamp, and

quackal swamp, the latter two forest types occurring on peat soils. Plants were also collected in cultivated fields, abandoned farms, mangrove forests, and flooded savannas. More details about the floristic composition and geographical distribution of these forest types are given in the chapters 2 and 3 of Part I of this thesis. During the two years of fieldwork, phenological data were recorded for the species providing edible fruits. Information on general flowering and fruiting seasons were largely based on Polak (1992) and van Roosmalen (1985). Phenology data could not be traced for all species, since much information in this field is still lacking.

1.3.5 Use

By far the most common methods of preparing a medicine of a bioactive species is boiling the plant in water and drinking the tea after removing the cooked plant parts (decoction). It is also common to boil several species of medicinal plants together (concoction). Plant parts may be soaked in hot or cold water (infusion), in rum, high wine, or other kinds of alcohol (tonic). Plants are boiled in water unless mentioned otherwise. Although the country has switched to the metric system, most Guyanese still use the English measurement units. Many of the recipes were originally given in pints (1 pt. = 0.568 litre) and pounds (1 lbs. = 0.454 kg). The prescriptions were given in this original form to facilitate their understanding in the Guyanese interior.

To release the active principles in fresh leaves, they are shortly heated ('quailed') over a fire or violently rolled and macerated between the hand palms, after which the sap is easily squeezed from the pulp. Detailed prescriptions and exact quantities are rarely given, since they are often variable and subject to trial and error. The recipes given in this guide should in no case be regarded as recommended prescriptions, and care should be taken with self-diagnosis and self-medication. The uses and preparations are noted down from informants, and should be viewed as folklore, which may or may not prove out. When planning to prepare a medicine from this guide, the reader is advised to seek help from an experienced person who is familiar with the recipe and the particular plant species.

Additional uses reported by other authors were mentioned when relevant. However, no exhaustive comparisons were made between plant use in the study area and other Neotropical countries. Medicinal plants used exclusively in Georgetown and surroundings are omitted from this guide, but they can be found in chapter 8 (Part I of this thesis). Local names for diseases are given between brackets or explained in the text, but complex medical terms have been avoided as much as possible. Quite a number of the medicinal plants listed in this guide have been pharmacologically screened for active principles, but the listing of detailed screening results of each species lays outside the scope of this guide. When relevant, references are made to pharmacological literature. More screening results from plant species occurring in the Guianas can be found in Grenand et al. (1987), Schultes and Raffauf (1990), Lachman-White et al. (1992), the Journal of Ethnopharmacology, and in medical abstracts and pharmacological databases on the internet, such as CABI (www.cabi.org), MEDLINE (www.nlm.nih.gov), Napralert (www.national.chiropractic.edu/academ/napralert.html), and ESA (www.ciagni.usp.br./planmedi).

1.3.6 Economy

When a species was observed on local, regional, or national markets, or sold through other channels, this is mentioned under the economy section. Since few Amerindians possess chain saws, boards are almost always a commercial item. However, little attention has been paid to the commercialisation of timber products. The US dollar was chosen as the standard currency, since the Guyanese dollar has been subject to devaluation and is unknown to non-Guyanese. Throughout this guide, the rate of January 1998 was used (US$ 1 = G$ 141).

1.3.7 Notes

The information given under this heading comprises of translations of the Amerindian names and references to colour plates.

1.3.8 Colour plates

Several colour plates are provided to clarify the uses of several important NTFPs.

1.3.9 Drawings
Scale bars are provided for every drawing, in order to facilitate identification. The drawings of the trunk bases usually represent the lower two meters of the trunk. The different plant organs are explained in the legends.

1.3.10 Other useful plant species of northwest Guyana
The remaining 471 useful plants are arranged alphabetically by their families. A short botanical description is provided, as well as some brief information about habitat and local uses. Only the uses found during this study are given. No details are given on uses mentioned in literature.

1.3.11 Species used for firewood only
Species with no other use than firewood are listed in this table. Species used explicitly to start a fire or commercial firewood (e.g., Chrysobalanaceae) are considered more important and listed among the remaining useful plants species.

1.3.12 Agricultural species in northwest Guyana
To avoid confusion with NTFPs, all cultivated (agricultural) species observed in the North-West District are listed in this table. These plants do not occur in the wild in the study area, and thus cannot be regarded as non-timber forest products. An exception is made for plants that escape from cultivation (e.g., *Bambusa vulgaris*). Wild plants taken from the forest and replanted in gardens and house yards are considered to be NTFPs and are treated as such. The list does not provide all the different cultivars of agricultural crops. It is neither exhaustive concerning ornamental plants.

1.3.13 Indices
In order to facilitate the search for information on a particular species, an index is provided for the scientific names of the species included in this guide. Additionally, an index is supplied for the vernacular names of plants, as well as for local terms of illnesses and other plant uses.

3. OTHER USEFUL PLANT SPECIES OF THE NORTH-WEST DISTRICT OF GUYANA.

Asystasia gangetica (L.) T. Anders **ACANTHACEAE**
Herb to 30 cm high. Leaves simple, opposite. Flowers white, lower lip with purple spots. Introduced from India as medicinal plant, now a persistent weed in pastures, Moruca. The whole plant is boiled and drunk for colds.

Justicia calycina (Nees) Graham **ACANTHACEAE**
St. John's bush (red type) (Cr), Warakaba bina[1] (Ar), Akami, Woko potïrï (C)
Herb to 1 m high. Leaves opposite. Stem with thick nodes. Flowers scarlet red, filaments long. Along forest creeks, planted in Barama house yards. Caribs believe this plant is a bina to make enemies forget their anger. The leaves are used in herbal baths or rubbed with perfume on the body. Instead of starting a fight, the rival will approach happily, like a tame warakaba (trumpet bird) does when he sees a passer-by. The sap from briefly heated and macerated leaves is squeezed in sore eyes. Warao boil the leaves for whooping cough and colds.
(1) The leaves are folded downwards like the wings of the warakaba. The stem nodes resemble the bird's knees.

Justicia pectoralis Jacq. **ACANTHACEAE**
Toyeau, Purple toyeau (Cr).
Herb to 50 cm high. Stem reddish. Leaves opposite. Flowers very small, white. Along forest creeks, often planted in house yards. A bundle of plants boiled in water gives a tea with a scent of spice and cloves, which is drunk as tea, but also against (whooping) cough and colds. It is boiled with daisy (*Sphagneticola trilobata*) into a cold medicine. Toyeau boiled with sweet sage (*Lantana camara*) and some other herbs is drunk for haemorrhage. In Georgetown, a tea is prepared from toyeau, sweet sage, teasam (*Lippia alba*), tulsie (*Ocimum campechianum*), and velvet (*Waltheria indica*) to make a cold medicine. Sold at the Georgetown herbal market.

Justicia secunda Vahl **ACANTHACEAE**
St. John's bush (Cr).
Herb, ca. 60 cm high Leaves opposite. Flowers pink. Along roads, occasionally planted in Moruca house yards. The branches (with or without flowers) are boiled, and the blood-red tea is drunk for colds, whooping cough, general weakness, to bitter the blood, and to prevent and cure malaria. The tea is taken regularly when suffering from anaemia, general weakness, or a heavy menstruation. The decoction is thought to 'build up' and purify the blood. The whole herb is used in herbal baths against measles and fever. A tea from St. John's bush, white cleary (*Heliotropium indicum*), and information bush (*Cyathillium cinereum*) is drunk to provoke abortion. Sold at the Georgetown herbal market.

Crinum erubescens L.f. ex Sol. **AMARYLLIDACEAE**
White lily, Spider lily (Cr), Makwaka (Ar).
Herb to 1 m tall. Bulb spongy, onion-like. Leaves linear. Flowers large, white, in whorls of four. In seasonally flooded savanna. The bulb is grated, mixed with water and salt and drunk against biliousness. This causes vomiting and has a strong laxative effect. It is used 'to clean out the body'.

Hippeastrum puniceum (Lam.) Kuntze **AMARYLLIDACEAE**
Red lily (Cr), Konopo sinary[1] (C).
Herb to 60 cm high. Bulb fleshy, white, onion-like. Leaves linear. Flowers showy, orange, with a green centre. In pastures, spared from weeding in house yards. For asthma and biliousness, the bulb is grated or chopped fine and boiled in half a litre of salted water. The mixture is boiled down, more water is added and boiled down again to a quarter litre. For adults, three bulbs are needed, for children one or two. After drinking a large cup the patient starts to vomit. Some warm water is drunk to throw up more slime from the chest. It also works as a laxative. The flowers are used for ornamental purposes. (1) 'Rain whistle' (Courtz, 1997).

Hymenocallis tubiflora Salisb. **AMARYLLIDACEAE**
Wild onion, Spider lily (Cr), Silvador (Sp), Makwaka (Ar), Yunu enekang, Parakawari (C), Tokolohoko (Wr).
Erect herb. Bulb white, onion-like. Leaves elliptic, dark green. Flowers large, white. Along forest creeks. Leaves are briefly heated over a fire and tied on swellings or sprained limbs. To relieve headache, a leaf is stuck to the forehead with coconut oil. A remedy for slimy chest colds is prepared by boiling half a bulb until it becomes slimy. One spoon is given to children; four spoons to adults. After 15 minutes, the patient starts to vomit out the slime. The grated bulb is also applied as a poultice to swellings.

Astronium cf. **lecointei** Ducke **ANACARDIACEAE**
Olo tree (Cr), Olo (Ar).
Medium-sized tree. Inner bark orange, with turpentine smell. Leaves large, bipinnate. Flowers small, in pyramidal panicles. Drupe ellipsoid. In mixed forest. The bark is boiled with the barks of black maho (*Rollinia exsucca*) and black yarula (*Aspidosperma excelsum*) and used as an herbal bath to get rid of evil spirits. The bark is occasionally sold in Moruca. The resin is burned to chase away evil spirits, and used as incense in the Santa Rosa Catholic church.

Tapirira guianensis Aubl. **ANACARDIACEAE**
Broad leaf / Small leaf waramir, Brown / White warimir (Cr), Duka, Waramia (Ar), Wataparïrï (C).
Medium-sized tree. Leaves imparipinnate. Flowers small, yellow. Berry purple-black. Common in secondary forest. The species varies in habit and leaf morphology, the reason why local people distinguish two types. The fruits are edible and sweet, mostly eaten by children. The wood is locally used as boards, floors, and walls, but quickly decays in sun and rain. The slimy inner bark is scraped and put on sores and cuts to disinfect and stop the bleeding. The bark is sometimes mixed with a poultice of black banana stem (*Musa* sp.) for the same purpose. Wounds are washed with a decoction of the inner bark. In Barama, straight young trunks are used as house beams and as upright poles to weave hammocks. The wood is generally used as firewood.

Tapirira cf. **obtusa** (Benth.) Mitch. **ANACARDIACEAE**
Duka (Ar), Wataparïrï (C).
Medium-sized tree. Bark with resin scent. Leaves imparipinnate, yellowish puberulous when young. Occasional in secondary forest. The wood is generally used as firewood. People in Barama keep a piece of this wood in their house and scrape off wood curls in the morning to light the fire.

Thyrsodium guianense Sagot **ANACARDIACEAE**
Sand mora (Cr).
Medium-sized tree. Twigs ribbed. Leaves imparipinnate, with milky resin. Fruiting panicles tomentose. Drupe ellipsoid, yellowish green. Rare in mixed forest. The wood is said to be extremely poisonous and is used as fish poison. Throwing wood chips in a creek would turn the water pitch-black and instantly kill the fish. The guts, scales, and skin of the fish should quickly be removed, and the flesh thoroughly cleaned with lime to avoid digesting the poison. Although used more commonly in the past, people are now reluctant to use this poison. The wood is considered too poisonous for house construction or firewood. There is a possibility that informants confused this species with *Talisia* spp.

Anaxagorea dolichocarpa Sprague & Sandw. **ANNONACEAE**
Maho (Cr), Kurihi koyoko[1] (Ar), Aperemu, Kuwe enakarï[2] (C), Bakera aba (Wr).
Small tree. Bark with resin scent. Flowers yellow, produced from the main trunk. Monocarps free, club-shaped, brown. Common in Mora forest. The inner bark is used for head straps and lashing material, as substitute for the 'real maho' (*Sterculia pruriens*). The wood is used for rafters, runners, and flooring beams. The wood is carved into 'bouncers', blunt arrowheads to knock down birds.
(1) 'Rat ear', after the club-shaped fruit (Fanshawe, 1949); (2) 'Krekete chain', as the fruits resemble krekete snail shells (*Ampullaria* sp.).

Annona symphyocarpa Sandw. **ANNONACEAE**
Maho (Cr), Duru (Ar).
Small tree. Leaves whitish below. Fruit syncarpous, grey-green, areolate, glabrous. Rare in mixed forest. The sweet-scented inner bark is used for head straps and lashing material, to substitute the 'real maho' (*Sterculia pruriens*). The wood is used as firewood.

Bocageopsis multiflora (Mart.) R.E. Fr. **ANNONACEAE**
Maho (Cr), Arara (Ar).
Small tree. Outer bark dark red. Flowers small, white. Monocarps globose, small, free. Rare in disturbed primary forest, Moruca. The bark is used for lashing material, as substitute for the 'real maho' (*Sterculia pruriens*).

Duguetia calycina Benoist **ANNONACEAE**
White broad leaf yariyari, Black yariyari (Cr), Yarayara (Ar), Yorokang pomïidyï[1] (C), Dharadhara (Wr).
Small tree. Bark strips off easily. Fruit a light brown, woody syncarp with stout spines, ca. 4 cm in diam. In mixed forest. The wood is sometimes used for fishing rods, bows, and roof rafters, but is of lesser quality than that of *Duguetia pycnastera*. The fruits were only once mentioned as edible.
(1) 'Devils pepper'.

Duguetia megalophylla R.E. Fr. **ANNONACEAE**
Monkey soursop (Cr), Yarayara (Ar), Black isyanomandurïyï (C), Dharadhara (Wr).
Small tree. Bark strips off easy, with pungent scent. Flowers large, greenish yellow. Syncarp soft-spined. Rare in Mora forest, Barama. The wood is used for house construction and carved into bouncer arrowheads. The bark is used for snakebites, as substitute for black yariyari (*Unonopsis glaucopetala*). The victim must suck on bark scrapings to ease the pain. The fruits were only once mentioned as edible.

Duguetia pauciflora Rusby **ANNONACEAE**
White yariyari, Yariyari (Cr), Yarayara (Ar), Isyanomandurïyï (C), Dharadhara (Wr).
Small tree. Bark strips off easily, inner bark orange, with pungent scent. Flowers white. Syncarp yellowish green, soft-spined. In mixed forest. The wood is sometimes used for fishing rods, bows, and housing, but is of lesser quality than *Duguetia pycnastera*. The bark is used for snakebites, as substitute for black yariyari (*Unonopsis glaucopetala*). The victim must suck on bark scrapings to ease the pain. The inner bark is used for head straps and lashing material, to substitute the 'real maho' (*Sterculia pruriens*).

Duguetia yeshidan Sandw. **ANNONACEAE**
White yariyari (Cr), Yeshidan[1] (Ar), White isyanomandurïyï (C), Dharadhara (Wr).
Small tree. Bark with cucumber smell. Flowers yellow, ca. 3 cm long, cauliflorous. Syncarp green, soft-spined. Common in Mora forest. The wood is sometimes used for fishing rods, bows and roof rafters, but is of lesser quality than that of *Duguetia pycnastera*. The bark is used for snakebites, as substitute for black yariyari (*Unonopsis glaucopetala*). The victim must suck on bark scrapings to ease the pain.
(1) 'Armadillo tree', after the spiny fruit (Fanshawe, 1949).

Guatteria schomburgkiana Mart **ANNONACEAE**
Black maho, Black yariyari (Cr), Koyechi, Arara (Ar), Yaroyaro, Payuriran, Wayiru (C).
Medium-sized tree. Outer bark black, flaky, inner bark yellow. Leaves softly hairy below. Flowers dull red. Monocarps free, 3-15, purple-black. In quackal swamp forest. The wood is used in house construction (runners, beams) and locally sawn into boards.

Guatteria flexilis R.E. Fr. **ANNONACEAE**
Black yariyari (different type) (Cr), Arara (Ar).
Small tree. Bark dark brown, peels off easily. Flowers green, yellow in the centre. Monocarps free. Rare in secondary forest, Moruca. The wood is occasionally sawn into boards.

Guatteria sp. TVA666 **ANNONACEAE**
Black maho (Cr), Kuyama, Arara (Ar), Yarayara (C).
Medium-sized tree. Outer bark dark brown, inner bark light brown, wood yellow, soft. In secondary forest, Barama. The wood is used for house construction (runners and beams) and firewood.

Rollinia exsucca (DC. ex Dunal) A. DC. **ANNONACEAE**
Black maho, Wild sugarapple, Teddy bear tree (Cr), Koyechi[1] (Ar), Sokowe, Kasimyarang[2] (C), Dau horo[3] (Wr).
Small tree. Flowers yellowish green, propeller-like. Syncarp small, green. Common in secondary forest. The inner bark is used for head straps and lashing material, as substitute for the 'real maho' (*Sterculia pruriens*). The bark is used in herbal baths for fever. Pregnant women suffering from haemorrhage must drink large amounts of the bark decoction to prevent a miscarriage. To be effective, the bark should be harvested from mature trees. Children build miniature dogs from the propeller-shaped flowers. The wood is used as firewood.
(1) 'Quake string', after the bark; (2) 'Resembling kasimya', the cultivated sugarapple (*Rollinia mucosa*); (3) 'Skin tree', after the bark.

Xylopia cayennensis Maas **ANNONACEAE**
Black maho (Cr), Kuyama (Ar).
Medium-sized tree with small buttresses. Bark strips off easily. Branches reddish. Young leaves orange. Monocarps free. In secondary forest. The wood is locally sawn into boards, used for house construction. The leaves of nine different branches are boiled in an herbal bath against fever.

Xylopia cf. **surinamensis** R.E. Fr. **ANNONACEAE**
Kuyama (Ar), Black wepopi (C).
Medium-sized tree. Small buttresses. Bark red-brown, wood white, turning orange when exposed. Branches rusty brown. Monocarps free, light yellow. Frequent in secondary forest. The wood is sometimes used for house construction and boards, but more often as firewood.

Xylopia sp. TVA1165 **ANNONACEAE**
Kuyama (Ar), White wepopi (C).
Large tree. Outer bark white, inner bark orange-yellow, wood yellow. In secondary forest, Barama. The trunk is used particularly as roof ridge in Carib houses and occasionally sawn into boards. Carib women prefer this wood as firewood to bake their traditional clay pottery. It was once mentioned that beating it with an axe head could flatten the bark to form resilient floors and walls, similar to balamanni bark (*Catostemma commune*).

Allamanda cathartica L. **APOCYNACEAE**
Buttercup (Cr), Baruda balli[1] (Ar), Keraporang, Amapa, Okuyumbo kerapore (C), Osibu akwantete[2] (Wr).
Scrambling shrub with white latex. Leaves in whorls of four. Flowers yellow, trumpet-shaped. Fruit green, spiny. In riverbank vegetation, but also cultivated as ornamental in coastal Guyana. The leaves are boiled and drunk against malaria. The tea serves as a laxative for biliousness.
(1) 'Comb-like', after the spiny fruit (Fanshawe, 1949); (2) 'Morocot comb', since this fish feeds on the fruit.

Ambelania acida Aubl. **APOCYNACEAE**
Monkey apple (Cr), Mapurio, Makoriro (Ar), Amapapari (C).
Small tree with abundant white latex. Leaves opposite. Flowers in subsessile corymbs. Fruit large, yellow, with much sticky latex. In secondary forest, Moruca. The fruit has a delicious taste, but the skin must first be pounded with a club or cutlass handle to get rid of the juicy latex. If not pounded and peeled, the fruit is too sticky to eat. Monkeys also beat the fruit on a branch to remove the latex before consuming it.

Aspidosperma cf. **cruentum** Woodson **APOCYNACEAE**
Red yarula (Cr), Yaruru (Ar, Wr), Apukuitya (C).
Large tree. Stem deeply fluted. Outer bark dark grey, inner bark yellow. Leaves opposite, with little red latex. Fruit circular, dehiscent. Seeds broadly winged. Rare in mixed forest. Paddles are carved from the fluted trunk. A tea from the bark is drunk in small quantities for malaria, but an overdose can be fatal.

Aspidosperma excelsum Benth. **APOCYNACEAE**
Black yarula (Cr) Yaruru (Ar, Wr), Tupuru Apukuitya (C).
Large tree. Stem deeply fluted. Outer bark brown, inner bark yellow, with little white latex and a poisonous scent. Leaves opposite, grey below. Fruit sessile. Seeds winged. Frequent in mixed forest. The black and white yarula (*A. marcgravianum*) are considered the best wood for paddles. A rectangular piece is split from the fluted trunk and carved into a paddle. Wooden slippers and axe handles are made from the wood as well. A small piece of the outer bark is boiled and two mouthfuls of the bitter tea are drunk for nine mornings to cure malaria. The tea is boiled down for an hour into a very bitter, thick, yellow liquid. This is drunk to bitter the blood, to prevent malaria and other diseases. A calabash full of the tea from bark scrapings taken early in the morning works as abortifacient. If the red wood ear mushroom (*Pycnoporus sanguineus*) is added, the woman will become completely sterile. In Moruca, charcoal is made from black yarula wood by burning it slowly for two days in a deep pit covered with green leaves. The coal is sold in Charity for US$ 0.35 a rice bag. Two trees of 20 m tall will produce 200 bags of charcoal.

Aspidosperma sp. TVA996 **APOCYNACEAE**
Jelly tree (Cr), Patara, Patawarang (C).
Small tree. Outer bark yellowish brown, warty, lenticellate, inner bark orange-white, with bitter, transparent exudate, turning into a jelly-like substance after a day. Rare in mixed forest, Barama. The bark strips off easily and is plaited into a temporary 'bush hammock'. The wood is said to be very strong, suitable for bulldozer bridges, boards, and canoes. This species is rare and thus seldom used.

Catharanthus roseus (L.) G. Don **APOCYNACEAE**
Old maid flower, Periwinkle (Cr).
Herb to 60 cm high. Leaves opposite, white below, strong-scented. Flowers pink to white. Native to Madagascar, cultivated as ornamental and escaped as weed throughout the tropics. In Moruca, the leaves are boiled and taken as a diuretic by men having trouble with urinating. In Georgetown, the tea is drunk for diabetes. A tea prepared from the flowers alone is taken for irregular heart beating. Sold at the Georgetown herbal market.

Forsteronia guyanensis Müll. Arg. **APOCYNACEAE**
Acouri tail (Cr), Makwariballi[1] (Ar), Akuri andïkïrï[2] (C).
Liana with white latex. Roots long-creeping, with bright red shoots. Leaves opposite. Follicles in pairs, long, thin, pendent. Common in Mora forest. The latex from the roots is sniffed up by people with a stuffed nose from cold. It gives a burning sensation and induces violent sneezing, thereby releasing the slime. According to an old Carib belief, bad spirits poor this latex into the nose of sleeping persons to bother them at night.
(1) 'Whip', from the long, flexible shoots (Fanshawe, 1949); (2) 'Acuri tail', after the long, flexible shoots.

Himatanthus articulatus (Vahl) Woodson **APOCYNACEAE**
Cow wood (Cr), Mabuwa (Ar), Ana-ï (C).
Large tree. Outer bark light brown, inner bark reddish purple, with abundant white latex. Leaves opposite. Flowers white. Follicles paired, green, to 30 cm long. Occasional in secondary forest, Moruca. The long-lasting wood is used for canoes.

Macoubea guianensis Aubl. **APOCYNACEAE**
Cow wood, Wild pear (Cr), Dukali, Rokoroko (Ar), Sokosoko (C).
Large tree. Trunk with large, bumpy warts. Abundant white latex from bark, twigs, and leaves. Leaves opposite. Flowers white. Follicles paired, globose, brown, woody, ca. 8 cm in diam. Seeds many, orange. In quackal swamp forest. In the past, the latex was mixed with commercially harvested balata (*Manilkara bidentata*), but today it is used only as glue. The wood is made into boards and canoes. Hunters wait near the tree at night to shoot tapirs feeding on the fruits.

Malouetia flavescens (Willd.) Müll. Arg. **APOCYNACEAE**
Kirikahü (Ar), Tapukeng[1] (C).
Shrub to 4 m tall, with white latex. Leaves opposite. Flowers white. Follicles paired, green. In Mora forest. The species is extremely poisonous, and its use was surrounded by some secrecy. In the deep interior, it may be used to poison enemies.
(1) The Carib name means 'it has milk'.

Odontadenia sandwithiana Woodson **APOCYNACEAE**
Buttercup (Cr), Tapukeng (C).
Woody climber. Latex white. Leaves opposite. Flowers yellow, showy, petals contorted, sweet-scented. In secondary forest, Moruca. The leaves are boiled and the milky tea is drunk by people suffering from pain and internal bleedings that have resulted from falling or fighting. Hindus in the interior use the flowers during their offering rituals.

Tabernaemontana disticha A. DC. **APOCYNACEAE**
Firemother (Cr), Hekunu arau, Hima heru (Wr).
Small tree. Stem slightly flattened. Bark dark brown. Latex white, abundant. Leaves opposite. Flowers small, petals contorted. Follicles fleshy, paired. Occasional in swamp forest on pegasse. Branches of this tree were used in the past to start a fire by rapidly swizzling a small stick in a hole made in a larger branch of the same wood. After a while, this becomes very hot and starts to sparkle and smoke. Some trysil bark (*Pentaclethra macroloba*) is sprinkled over it to light the fire. Branches were kept for months in the roof above the fireplace to make sure they were completely dry. In times of warfare, when people had to escape their villages and seek shelter in the forest, a dry stick of firemother was carried along to start a fire during the flight. To treat scorpion bites, the bark is scraped, mixed with water and drunk, while some scrapings are applied to the bite.

Tabernaemontana undulata (Vahl) A. DC. **APOCYNACEAE**
Dog stone[1], Baboon stone[1] (Cr), Buri[2] (Ar), Perro emurutano, Arawata emurutano (C).
Shrub or small tree. Leaves opposite. Latex white. Flowers small, tubular, white and pink. Follicles green, paired, hard. Abundant in Mora forest. The latex is dripped into sore eyes and on munuri ant bites. The sap from the scraped root is squeezed in the eyes as a remedy for headache. It burns heavily at first, but apparently eases the pain afterwards.
(1) The fruit resembles animal testicles, translations of the Carib names; (2) 'Bat', as the fruits are eaten by this animal (Fanshawe, 1949).

Caladium schomburgkii Schott **ARACEAE**
Labba bina (Ar), Urana turara (C).
Small, fleshy herb. Leaves green with white stripes. Petiole fleshy, white. Wild, but often planted in Amerindian house yards. The leaves are used as a hunting charm for labba. Hunters carry a leaf in their pocket when they go in the forest, to increase their chance to find a labba. Leaves are mixed through the food of hunting dogs. Puppies are bathed with the leaves to increase their skills to hunt labba. The white stripes on the leaves resemble the white spots on the animals fur.

Dieffenbachia cf. **humilus** Poepp. **ARACEAE**
Dungcane, Donkin (Cr), Djotaro, Djoturu, Jotoro (Ar), Karuwara aibihi[1] (Wr).
Erect shrub to 1 m tall. Petioles spotted green and white, with white, acrid exudate. Leaves spotted light and dark green, foul-scented. In secondary forest, Barima. The sap is used to expel mosquito worms from a dog's skin. People believe that walking on the rotten leaves causes ground itch.
(1) The Warao name means 'charm against karuwara', a caterpillar with painful stings.

Dieffenbachia paludicola N.E. Br. **ARACEAE**
Djotaro, Djoturu, Jotoro (Ar), Pakarawari (C), Karuwara aibihi (Wr).
Herb to 1.5 m high. Leaves long, erect, with white, acrid exudate. Forming large colonies in manicole swamps. Djotoro leaves are used to 'trick dead': if somebody dies unexpectedly, or under suspect circumstances, people may believe this person was poisoned or murdered. To find the offender, a cross of djotoro leaves is placed in the coffin before the deceased is laid down in it. A few days after the funeral, the murderer will betray himself by contracting a terrible itch over his body, which will subsequently lead to his death. Leaves of the cultivated fish poison kunaparu (*Euphorbia cotinifolia*) are used similarly.

Monstera adansonii var. **klotzschiana** (Schott) Madison **ARACEAE**
Hanaquablar, Itch bush (Cr), Halakwa bana[1] (Ar), Kusari pana, Sityubi (C), Daroko harahara[1] (Wr).
Large epiphyte. Petioles spongy, with white spots. Leaves alternate, fleshy, with holes. Spadix large, white. Common in secondary forest and manicole swamp. To ease the pain of swellings and abscesses, a leaf is briefly heated over the fire, rubbed with coconut oil, and tied on the hurting spot. To relieve snake and scorpion bites, the inner side of a young shoot is scraped, warmed over the fire and applied to the bite with a bandage.
(1) The Arawak and the Warao name both signify 'leaf with holes in it'.

Philodendron cf. **brevispathum** Schott **ARACEAE**
Hanaquablar (Cr).
Hemi-epiphyte. Stem base covered with brown scales. Leaves alternate, large, heart-shaped, fleshy, dark green with light green stripes. Spadix greenish white at base, white at apex. Common in manicole swamp. In Assakata, the shoots are scraped and applied to scorpion bites.

Philodendron deflexum Poepp. ex Schott **ARACEAE**
White sideru, Sideru einaporeidyï (C).
Epiphyte, often growing in ants nests. Aerial roots light brown, with thick, warty bulbs, and strong resin scent. Petioles terete. Leaves alternate, sagittate. In secondary forest and Mora swamps. The thickened parts of the aerial roots are scraped or grated and applied to munuri ant bites. The roots serve as inferior binding material.

Philodendron fragrantissimum (Hook.) Kunth **ARACEAE**
Turuturu vine, Fire rope, Tree sarsparilla (Cr), Turuturu, Otokane (C).
Large epiphyte. Aerial roots thin. Stem base with brown scales. Petiole flattened, winged, sweet-scented. Leaves alternate, large, sagittate. Spathe red, spadix white. In mixed forest and manicole swamp. The aerial roots are used as a minor binding material to tie bundles of manicole cabbage (*Euterpe oleracea*). The stem base is cleaned and boiled, and the brown tea is drunk, just as tea or to cure impotence. The large leaves are sometimes used as a shelter for rain. The acrid, milky sap from the aerial roots is applied to mosquito worms.

Philodendron grandifolia (Jacq.) Schott **ARACEAE**
White durubana (Cr), Dorobana (Ar).
Large hemi-epiphyte. Stem stout, mostly bare. Aerial roots long, thin. Leaves sagittate. Common in manicole swamp. The aerial roots are used as a minor binding material or 'bush rope', but they are not very strong.

Philodendron linnaei Kunth **ARACEAE**

Long leaf hanaquablar (Cr), Marudi hi[1] (Ar).

Hemi-epiphyte. Aerial roots green. Petiole short. Leaves alternate, oblong, leathery, pinkish, rolled inwards when young. Spathe pink at base, white at top. Spadix white, strong-scented. In Mora forest and manicole swamp. To ease the pain of swellings, a leaf is briefly heated over a fire, rubbed on the skin, or tied as a bandage on the hurting spot. The pinkish, biting sap is rubbed on ringworm.

(1) 'Marudi tail', after the long, narrowly elliptic leaves (Fanshawe, 1949).

Philodendron melinonii Brongn. ex Regel **ARACEAE**

Broad leaf durubana (Cr), Dorobana (Ar).

Large hemi-epiphyte. Stem and leaf base covered with red scales. Petiole flattened above. Leaves alternate, very large, leathery. Abundant in manicole swamp. In Assakata, the leaves are used as 'stopper' in boats to protect goods from the rain, or as temporary umbrella. Leaves are tucked in thatched roofs to block holes and used to protect fresh fish from the sun. The aerial roots are used as fishing line, as a substitute for polyethylene line.

Philodendron pedatum (Hook.) Kunth **ARACEAE**

Hanaquablar (Cr).

Large hemi-epiphyte to 6 m tall. Petioles long, with red spots. Leaves alternate, 3-lobed, irregularly pinnatifid, sharp but pleasantly scented, with brown, irritating sap. Frequent in Mora forest and swamp forest on pegasse. In Barama, the leaves are boiled and drunk as a tea against back pain.

Philodendron rudgeanum Schott **ARACEAE**

Black sideru (C).

Small hemi-epiphyte. Aereal roots thin, brown. Petiole winged. Leaves alternate, fleshy. Spathe green. Spadix dark brown. Common in mixed, secondary forest, and swamp forest. The aerial roots are used as inferior bush rope to tie fish or bait wrapped in a leaf. Such packages were called 'sijomba' (C) in Barama.

Philodendron scandens K. Koch & Sello **ARACEAE**

Face to the east, Spotted hanaquablar, Wild bajee, Silver leaf, Labaria bush (Cr), Yaruka bura bura (Ar), Okoyu rarï[1] (C), Nahutoto (Wr).

Hemi-epiphyte, climbing flat against the tree trunk. Leaves alternate, first sessile, later pendent and heart-shaped, with silvery patterns. Common in Mora swamp, frequent in other forest types. When bitten by a labaria snake or munuri ant, the leaves are boiled and drunk as a tea. One leaf is put as a plaster on the bite. A leaf is boiled or briefly heated over a fire and put as a disinfectant plaster on cuts and sores. Pounded leaves are mixed with salt as a poultice on persistent sores (bush yaws, *leishmaniasis*). The sap from heated leaves is dripped in sore eyes. Due to the variety in habit and shape of this species, local people distinguish various types.

(1) The Carib name means 'snake belly'.

Philodendron surinamense (Schott) Engler **ARACEAE**

Black rope (Cr).

Hemi-epiphyte. Aerial roots long, pendent. Petioles pink, fleshy. Leaves alternate, fleshy. Spadix thick, fleshy, pink. In mixed forest and swamps on pegasse. The aerial roots serve as inferior binding material, used in Assakata to tie the legs of game animals.

Spathiphyllum cannifolium (Dryand.) Schott **ARACEAE**

Pakarawari (C).

Clump-forming herb to 75 cm high. Leaves alternate. Peduncle long. Spathe large, fleshy, whitish green. Spadix yellowish green. Forming dense colonies in creeks and in Mora and manicole swamps. The leaves are used as wrapping material.

Urospatha sagittifolia (Rudge) Schott **ARACEAE**
Labaria bina (black type) (Cr), Ole balli (Ar), Masalajang (C), Kabaha (Wr).
Erect herb to 2 m high. Petiole long, green and purple. Leaves alternate, sagittate. Spathe purple-green outside, whitish green inside, apex long, spirally coiled. Spadix whitish green. In flooded savanna. People believe that lashing their feet with the petiole, which is spotted and dark like the skin of the labaria snake, will protect them from its bites.

Schefflera morototoni (Aubl.) Maguire, Steyerm. & Frodin **ARALIACEAE**
Matchwood, Mad stick (Cr), Sungsung, Simarupa, Karahuru, Karohoro (Ar), Morototo-ï (C), Omu (Wr).
Large tree with open crown. Leaves alternate, palmately compound, yellow puberulous when young. Flowers and fruits in broad panicles. Abundant in secondary forest and abandoned fields. The wood of this tree lights easily when dry. In the past, fire was made by rapidly swizzling a small matchwood stick in a hole in a piece of hardwood. Nowadays, people light the fire with wood curls scraped from a matchwood branch. The wood is a commercial timber, used by Amerindians to carve benches, guitars, and banjos. In the past, the traditional Carib sambura drums were made of this wood. The slimy bark scrapings are applied to cuts and sores. For scorpion bites, the sap squeezed from bark scrapings is warmed and drunk, while some scrapings are put on the bite. Nine leaves are boiled in a herbal bath against fever.

Aristolochia sp. TVA573 **ARISTOLOCHIACEAE**
Heart weed, Problem bush (Cr), Warakaba bina (Ar), Akami (C), Murahaka (Wr).
Delicate vine. Leaves alternate, heart-shaped. Flowers not seen. Grown in Amerindian house yards, but probably of wild origin. People ascribe magic powers to this plant and say brings luck and makes enemies or annoyed beloved ones forget their anger. The leaves are rubbed on the body or a piece of vine is kept in the pocket. Instead of starting an argument, people will approach the person happily, like a tame warakaba bird does when seeing a passer-by. Leaves are hidden in the house to bring financial luck. The vine is also used to stay out of the hands of the police. When going to court, the suspect hides some leaves on his body to be sure the judge will be on his side. The plant is believed to win somebody's love, render a person madly in love, or keep a man or women by your side forever. Many people are afraid to become spellbound by such bina plants. The Caribs in particular are said to use powerful binas, but Arawak and Warao grow and use them as well. One of the few remedies to get rid of the spell is rubbing the body thoroughly with lime juice.

Auricularia delicata (Fr.) Henn **AURICULARIACEAE**
Brown wood ear (Cr), Barati-jike[1] (Ar).
Mushroom. Hood cup-shaped, rubber-like, smooth, brown and shiny above, brown and reticulate below. Growing on decayed wood in disturbed primary forest. The mushroom is edible and cooked in stew.
(1) The Arawak name means 'Negro ear' (Fanshawe, 1949).

Laetipous sp. TVA1997 **AURICULARIACEAE**
Red wood ear (Cr)
Mushroom. Hood spongy, bright orange above, pale yellow below. Growing on burned logs in cultivated fields. A handful of mushrooms is boiled and drunk by women with a heavy menstruation. The medicine is said to shorten the menstruation drastically and decrease the loss of blood.

Pycnoporus sanguineus (L.: Fr.) Murrill **AURICULARIACEAE**
Red wood ear (Cr), Koyara te[1] (Ar), Urupe (C).
Mushroom. Hood stiff, bright orange. Frequent on burned wood in cultivated fields. A handful of mushrooms is boiled and drunk as tea by women with a heavy menstruation. The medicine is said to shorten the menstruation drastically and decrease the loss of blood.
(1) 'Deer guts', after the shape of the hood (Fanshawe, 1949).

Callichlamys latifolia (Rich.) K. Schum. **BIGNONIACEAE**
Woody climber. Leaves opposite, 3-foliate. Flowers shiny yellow, sweet-scented, calyx thick and spongy, corolla trumpet-shaped. Pod ellipsoid, green. Frequent in riverbank Mora forest. The stem is used as 'bush rope' to tie logs together and make rafts.

Ceratophytum tetragonolabus (Jacq.) Sprague & Sandw. **BIGNONIACEAE**
White rope (Cr), Tamuneng simyo (C).
Woody climber, with interpetiolar glandular fields. Leaves opposite, 3-foliate or 2-foliate with a trifid tendril. Flowers tubular, cream to white. Common in riverbank Mora forest. The stem is used as 'bush rope' to tie logs and rafts. To the annoyance of craft makers, the stem is sometimes sold as kufa (*Clusia* spp.), but it lacks the required qualities for furniture making.

Crescentia amazonica Ducke **BIGNONIACEAE**
Watermomma calabash (Cr).
Small tree. Branches strikingly horizontal. Leaves clustered. Flowers large, green, on trunk. Fruit a small calabash, with a repulsive smell. Occasional on flooded riverbanks, upper Barima. The dried fruits are used as boat bailer, bowl, or drinking cup, similar to the cultivated calabash (*Crescentia cujete*), but they are softer and more fragile.

Cydista aequinoctialis (L.) Miers **BIGNONIACEAE**
Woody climber. Leaves opposite, 2-foliate, with a simple tendril. Flowers showy, tubular, pink and white. Pod long, flat. Common in riverbank Mora forest, often forming 'curtains' of flowers. The stem is used as bush rope.

Jacaranda copaia (Aubl.) D. Don. subsp. **copaia** **BIGNONIACEAE**
Simarupa (soft kind) (Cr), Futui (Ar), Simarupa, Kupaya (C), Simaruba (Wr).
Large canopy tree. Leaves opposite, bipinnate, with repulsive smell. Flowers showy, bright purple. Pod flat, green. Seeds winged. In secondary and disturbed primary forest. The soft, white wood is a commercial timber, locally used to make cassava grater boards. When a baby is born in Barama, the fresh leaves are thrown in the fire to ward off the evil spirits that might attack the newborn. In Warapoka, the leaves are burnt under the hammocks of patients suffering from fever caused by malicious spells.

Jacaranda obtusifolia Bonpl. subsp. **rhombifolia** (G. Mey.) A.H. Gentry **BIGNONIACEAE**
Bad luck tree, Sand trysil, Wakenaam lilac (Cr), Arasisi-i, Wotokoraru (C).
Small tree. Leaves opposite, bipinnate. Flowers showy, metallic purple, white inside. Pod flat, green. Seeds winged. Occasional in open secondary forest, sometimes spared from felling as ornamental. The wood is used as firewood. The flowers are cut as ornamentals, but wither quickly. In Georgetown, the species is planted along the streets as ornamental. When the purple flowers are lying massively on the forest floor, Warao see this as a sign of bad luck, a prelude that old people and babies will become infected with bowel disorders and dysentery.

Macfadyenia cf. **unguis-cati** (L.) A.H. Gentry **BIGNONIACEAE**
Bat nail (Cr).
Small vine. Leaves opposite, 2-foliate, with trifid tendril. Flowers large, yellow. Pod narrow, linear. Seeds winged. Occasional in secondary forest, Barima. The vine is boiled and drunk by women suffering from haemorrhage. If women use it for a longer period they will become sterile, even though their menstruation continues.

Mansoa kerere (Aubl.) A.H. Gentry **BIGNONIACEAE**
Kamuru rope (white type) (Ar).
Woody climber. Stem with interpetiolar glandular fields. Leaves opposite, 2-foliate, with a trifid tendril. Flowers white to magenta. Pod flat, with thick valves. Seeds winged. In manicole swamp. The stem is used as bush rope to tie logs together and make rafts.

Parabignonia steyermarkii Sandw. **BIGNONIACEAE**
Bat finger (Cr), Rere einyarï, Kïrïring (C).
Woody climber. Leaves opposite, 2-foliate, with a small, claw-like tendril. Flowers magenta. Pod narrow, long, flat. Seeds winged. In abandoned fields and secondary forest. The stem is used as bush rope.

Pleonotoma albiflora (Salzm. ex DC.) A.H. Gentry **BIGNONIACEAE**
Kamoro (Ar).
Woody climber. Branches tetragonal. Leaves opposite, 3-foliate or 2-foliate with a trifid tendril. Flowers white. Pod long, flat. Seeds winged. In abandoned fields and secondary forest. The stem is used as bush rope. The stem is twisted to become flexible and then used as a sturdy fishing line.

Schlegelia violacea (Aubl.) Griseb. **BIGNONIACEAE**
Bultata kobia[1] (Ar), Simyo epïrïrï (C).
Woody climber. Leaves opposite, simple, thick, leathery, without tendrils. Flowers in terminal panicles, small, tubular, bright pink. Berry globose. Common in Mora and manicole swamp. The clear water from the stem is dripped into sore eyes. Pregnant women in Barama believe that playing with the flowers will bring them a baby boy.
(1) 'Eye lotion of the red-throated caracara', a noisy hawk also known as 'high bush antiman' (*Daptrius americanus*).

Tabebuia serratifolia (Vahl.) Nichols. **BIGNONIACEAE**
White hakia (Ar), Haküya (Ar), Washiba (Ar, C, Wr), Arawone (C).
Large tree. Leaves opposite, digitate, margins serrate, yellowish tomentose when young. Flowers yellow, slightly puberulous. Pod very long, flat. Seeds winged. Rare in mixed forest. The wood is very hard and locally used for strong pegs and bows.

Blechnum serrulatum Rich**.** **BLECHNACEAE**
Ginger grass, Hassa bush, Hassa grass (Cr), Asa jike[1] (Ar).
Large terrestrial fern. Fronds pinnate, curled when young. Sori linear, continuously along each side of the midrib. Forming dense colonies in frequently burned, seasonally flooded savanna, also as weed in cultivated fields. The curled tops are crushed until soft and slimy and applied to abscesses to break them open. The leaves are also used as toilet paper.
(1) This name means 'hassa ear', after the shape of the pinnae (Fanshawe, 1949). The hassa fish is said to hide between these ferns.

Ceiba pentandra (L.) Gaertn. **BOMBACACEAE**
Silk cotton tree (Cr), Kumaka (C, Ar), Makau (C), Iju, Okobato arau (Wr).
Very large tree with high buttresses. Young stems with spines. Leaves alternate, palmately compound. Capsule brown. Seeds numerous, with silky hairs. Occasional in riverbank Mora forest. The tree is believed to be inhabited by evil spirits, left by cruel Dutch slave masters to guard the treasures buried between the giant buttresses. People are reluctant to fell the tree, fearing the 'Dutch jumbies', the reason why the species is often seen as relic. The wood is very light and carved into gold battels by Amerindian pork-knockers. It is also used for miniature toy boats, dragged forward with a fish line. The fluffy seed mass may be used to fill up pillows.

Pachira aquatica Aubl**.** **BOMBACACEAE**
Wild cocoa (Cr), Kanihiri, Konaheri (Ar), Mau mau (C), Kobel (Wr).
Medium-sized tree. Leaves alternate, palmately compound. Flowers large, yellow. Anthers long, white, with pink tips. Capsule large, brown, woody. Seeds globose. Abundant along brackish rivers. The orange inner bark is boiled and drunk against dysentery, bloody diarrhoea, and disorders of the liver and bowels. An infusion of the bitter bark scrapings is taken for the same illnesses. The bark strips may be used as lashing material to substitute the 'real maho' (*Sterculia pruriens*). The seeds are cut open to consume the jelly inside, which tastes like chocolate.

Cordia curassavica (Jacq.) Roem & Schult. **BORAGINACEAE**
Black sage (Cr), Wonu[1] (C).
Shrub to 2 m tall. Leaves alternate, serrate, rough, strong-scented. Flowers yellowish green, in terminal panicles. Drupe red. In secondary shrubland. The branch is chewed until fibrous and used as toothbrush by people who cannot afford plastic brushes. The sap from the twigs has cleaning properties. When president Burnham banned the import of luxury goods in the 1970s, black sage was widely used as a toothbrush in Guyana. A tea from the leaves is drunk for high blood pressure. Crushed young leaves are put as a poultice on cuts. Sold at the Georgetown herbal market.
(1) 'Itch wood', after the rough leaves.

Cordia exaltata Lam. var. **melanoneura** (Klotzsch) I.M. Johnst. **BORAGINACEAE**
Maho (other type) (Cr).
Small tree. Outer bark white, inner bark yellow. Leaves alternate, with a bad smell. Flowers small, white, with long anthers. Drupe red to orange. In secondary forest, Moruca. The bark is used as minor lashing material.

Cordia sericicalyx A. DC. **BORAGINACEAE**
Grandma cherry (small leaf) (Cr), Yuwanaro, Kakhoro (Ar), Omose (C).
Small tree. Leaves alternate, variable in shape. Flowers white. Drupe greenish yellow to white. Rare in disturbed mixed forest, Moruca. The bark strips off easily, but it is not very strong and seldom used as lashing material. The sticky fruit pulp is used as glue to paste paper and kites. The pulp can be eaten as well.

Cordia tetrandra Aubl. **BORAGINACEAE**
Grandma cherry (long leaf) (Cr), Yuwanaro, Kakhoro (Ar), Araturuka (C).
Flat-topped tree to 12 m tall. Inner bark turns orange after exposure. Branches and leaves rough. Leaves alternate. Flowers white. Drupe ellipsoid, greenish white. Common on flooded riverbanks, occasionally in disturbed primary forest. The sticky fruit pulp is used as glue in schools to paste paper, kites, and books. The bittersweet fruit pulp is eaten by small children. Hunters wait under fruiting trees to shoot birds feeding on the fruits.

Heliotropium indicum L. **BORAGINACEAE**
White cleary, Wild clary (Cr).
Herb to 1 m high. Leaves alternate, covered with white hairs when young. Flowers numerous, small, white, in scorpioid cymes. Often spared from weeding in pastures. The whole plant is boiled and drunk against diabetes, female impotence, and excessive vaginal discharge ('passing too much white'). The tea is said to clean out the uterus. St. John's bush (*Justicia secunda*) and information bush (*Cyathillium cinereum*) are added to give the tea abortive properties. The plant is boiled with lime root (*Citrus aurantifolia*), the male flowers and the heart or 'cabbage' of a pawpaw tree (*Carica papaya*), and drunk against venereal diseases. Sold at the Georgetown herbal market.

Araeococcus micranthus Brongn. **BROMELIACEAE**
Bird ochroe (Cr), Karawasaka (C).
Epiphyte. Leaves rosulate, linear, margins spiny. Flowers yellow in erect, red, lax panicles. Seeds in slimy pulp. Frequent in coastal swamps, occasional in Mora forest. The spines are scraped off and the leaves are macerated in cold water. A spoonful is given in the morning and evening to babies with thrush.

Bromelia plumieri (E. Morren) L.B. Smith **BROMELIACEAE**
Wild pine (Cr), Kurubishuru (Wr).
Large terrestrial herb. Leaves to 3 m long, in dense, spreading rosette. Margins with curved spines. Fruits pale yellow, brown pilose, in large clusters on the ground. On white sand. The fruit pulp is edible, but the skin must be peeled off and seeds are many and hard. The fruit is used with some salt to prevent the sap from irritating the mouth. The species was seen only on the Waramuri shell mount, planted or spared from weeding long ago.

Disteganthus lateralis (L.B. Smith) Gouda **BROMELIACEAE**
Wild pine (Cr) Panansiwiri (C).
Herb to 1.5 m high. Leaves light green, in rosette, margins spiny. Flowers white. Inflorescence dark red at base. Fruits yellow, acuminate, brown pilose. Locally abundant in mixed forest. The fruit pulp is sour-sweet and edible, but the sap slightly irritates the mouth. The species was found only near the Assakata shell mount, where it was probably grown or spared from weeding by ancient inhabitants.

Protium decandrum Marchand **BURSERACEAE**
White kurokai, Incense tree, Broad leaf haiawa (Cr), Duka, Haiawa, Porokai (Ar), Arïwa-u (C).
Large tree. Bark with sweet-scented, transparent resin. Leaves alternate, imparipinnate. Flowers small, white, in panicles. Drupe green, asymmetric, dehiscing when ripe. Common in mixed forest. The bark is slashed and the sticky coagulated resin is collected the following day. It is used as incense, made into candles, or rubbed with coconut oil on painful limbs and arthritis. The resin is burned in the Santa Rosa Catholic Church. The second layer of bark is scraped off, dried, powdered, and applied to cuts, sores, and fire burns. The wood is a commercial timber, locally sawn into boards for house construction. Trunks are occasionally made into canoes.

Protium guianense Marchand **BURSERACEAE**
Kurokai, Small leaf haiawa (Cr), Haiawa, Porokai (Ar).
Medium-sized tree. Bark with sweet-scented, transparent resin. Leaves alternate, imparipinnate. Flowers small, white, in panicles. Drupe green, asymmetric. Occasional in mixed forest. The bark is slashed and the sticky coagulated resin is collected the following day. It is burned as incense, and believed to invite the good spirits while chasing away the bad ones. The wood is used to make boards and canoes.

Protium unifoliatum Engl. **BURSERACEAE**
Incense tree (Cr), Haiawa, Porokai (Ar).
Small tree. Resin cream, sweet-scented. Leaves alternate, simple, slightly serrate. Flowers small, white, in panicles. Drupe green, asymmetric. Rare in disturbed primary forest, Moruca. The wood is used for canoes or sawn into boards. The resin is burned as incense.

Protium sp. TVA1038 **BURSERACEAE**
Brown kurokai (Cr).
Medium-sized tree. Small buttresses. Outer bark orange brown, inner bark pink, sweet-scented, wood white. Leaves alternate, imparipinnate, swollen at base. Rare in mixed forest, Barama. The inner bark is scraped off, dried, powdered, and applied to cuts, sores, and fire burns.

Tetragastris altissima (Aubl.) Swart **BURSERACEAE**
Bread and cheese (Cr), Haiawaballi (Ar), Pïrïka (C).
Large tree to 30 m tall. Outer bark brown, flaky, inner bark orange. Leaves alternate, imparipinnate. Flowers small, white, in panicles. Drupe 4-lobed, yellowish red. In mixed and secondary forest, Barama. The white aril around the seeds is edible. The creamy resin is occasionally burned as incense. The wood is a commercial timber. It is locally used for boards, furniture, canoes, and firewood.

Trattinnickia cf. **lawrancei** Standl. var. **boliviana** Swart **BURSERACEAE**
Fine leaf haiawa (Cr), Haiawa (Ar).
Tree to 15 m tall. Outer bark light brown, lenticellate, inner bark pinkish brown. Leaves alternate, imparipinnate, rough below. Drupe purple-black. Rare in mixed forest, Moruca. The wood is used for boards and canoes. The resin is burned as incense.

Trattinnickia burserifolia Mart. **BURSERACEAE**

Swamp haiawa, Broad leaf haiawa (Cr), Haiawa, Ulu (Ar).

Medium-sized tree to 20 m tall. Bark with strong-scented resin. Wood white. Leaves alternate, imparipinnate. Flowers very small, pink. Drupe globose, red. In quackal swamp forest. The resin is burned as incense.

Epiphyllum phyllanthus (L.) Haw. var. **phyllanthus** **CACTACEAE**

Aligator tail (Cr), Kaiukuchi hi[1] (Ar), Akarerowai (C).

Epiphyte. Leaves fleshy, flat, to 1 m long. Petioles long. Flowers nocturnal, pinkish red and yellow. Berry bright pink, fleshy. Seeds numerous, black, in slimy white pulp. In gallery forests, sometimes taken home and planted as ornamental in cultivated fruit trees or hanging baskets. The fruit pulp with the seeds is edible and sweet. The leaves and roots are boiled and drunk against whooping cough, sometimes mixed with the grated rhizome of a baboon tail fern (e.g., *Polybotrya caudata*). Boiled with wild maran (*Pityrogramma calomelanos*), the tea is drunk as a laxative for colds and back pain.

(1) 'Aligator tail' after its flat, wavy-edged leaves (Fanshawe, 1949).

Canna indica L. **CANNACEAE**

Shakshak (Cr), Baiakana (Ar), Maraka (C).

Herb to 1.5 m high. Leaves spirally arranged. Flowers red and orange. Fruit a black, spiny capsule. Seeds numerous, very hard, black. Abundant in pastures and secondary shrubland. The seeds are used to fill maracas ('shakshaks').

Caryocar microcarpum Ducke **CARYOCARACEAE**

Water sawarri (Cr), Kapikola, Kola, Kula (Ar), Arukumari (C).

Small tree. Leaves opposite, 3-foliate. Flowers with thick yellow-green petals and many long, white stamens. Fruit a green drupe, seed coat spiny. In flooded forests, often spared from cutting in Moruca. The green fruit skin is peeled off and the spiny seeds are opened with a knife to obtain the edible, white nut. The bark is boiled and drunk against back pain. Flowers, leaves, and twigs macerated in water produce a soap substitute.

Cecropia obtusa Trecul **CECROPIACEAE**

Red congo pump (Cr), Wanasoro (Ar), Tapireng sarasara (C).

Tree to 10 m tall. Leaves alternate, palmately veined, mostly 8-lobed, rough above, reddish brown, covered with white hairs below. Stipules red. Pioneer tree on newly formed banks of meandering rivers. In Barama, a remedy against back pain is made by drying one leaf for three days over the fire and boiling it in a pint of water for ca. 45 minutes. One cup is drunk three times a day. Informants said the remedy worked only with red congo pump (*C. obtusa* or *C. peltata*), but not with white congo pump (*C. sciadophylla*).

Cecropia sciadophylla Mart. **CECROPIACEAE**

White congo pump, Male congo pump (Cr), Wanasoro (Ar), Tureke, Tamuneng sarasara (C), Waro (Wr).

Tree to 30 m, with stilt roots. Leaves alternate, palmately veined, 11-15-parted, to near the petiole. Abundant in secondary forest and abandoned fields. The hollow stems are used as benches, light rafts, and rollers to haul boats through the forest. A whistle is made from a young stem. The slimy inside of the bark is scraped, mixed with a little soap and sugar, and put as a poultice on abscesses or splinters to draw out the infection. The inner bark scrapings are diluted in water, and used as a bath to protect oneself against the malicious influence of the kenaima spirit. The tea from a dry leaf is drunk for liver and heart problems and as diuretic. In Georgetown, the tea is taken for kidney disorders. Men are advised to prepare the tea from the male congo pump (*C. sciadophylla*), while women should use the female type (*C. peltata*). Dry leaves are smoked as tobacco substitute. The leaves are sold at the Georgetown herbal market.

Coussapoa microcephala Trécul **CECROPIACEAE**
Wild varnish (small type) (Cr), Mabakubia[1] (Ar).
Scrambling shrub. Twigs and young leaves with stiff hairs. Stipule orange brown. Flowers small, yellow. Fruits orange to purple, slimy. In manicole swamp forest and creek edges. The slimy fruits are rubbed on paddles to give them a brown varnish layer. A larger 'type' of this species, which was used more often, was said to grow along the Waini River. However, no other *Coussapoa* species were observed in that area.
(1) The Arawak name means 'honey eye lotion' (Fanshawe, 1949).

Pourouma guianensis Aubl. subsp. **guianensis** **CECROPIACEAE**
Sandpaper tree (Cr), Buruma (Ar), Puruma (C), Daroko buroma[1] (Wr).
Small tree. Leaves palmately lobed, clustered at branch ends, rough above, soft, brown puberulous when young. Fruit purple-black. In Mora swamp, secondary and mixed forest. The rough side of the leaves is used as sandpaper to polish wooden tools, paddles, and music instruments. Leaves are further used to shrub the floor.
(1) The Warao term 'buroma' means 'rough'.

Goupia glabra Aubl. **CELASTRACEAE**
Stinkwood (Cr), Kabukalli (Ar), Kupi-i (C).
Tree to 30 m tall. Leaves alternate, simple, soft puberulous, margin crenulate. Flowers small, yellowish white, in axillary umbels. Berry small, black. Canopy trees in mixed forest, saplings in secondary shrubland. The wood is a commercial timber, although it produces a bad smell when sawn. It is locally used for house construction, boards, and canoes. The bark is boiled in a bath for eczema. With some leaves added, the bath is used to cure chickenpox. Bark scrapings are stuffed in cavities to relieve toothache.

Maytenus cf. **guyanensis** Klotzsch ex Reissek **CELASTRACEAE**
Kaiarima (Ar), Uwato epitji[1] (C).
Medium-sized tree. Outer bark rough, inner bark red. Twigs ribbed. Leaves alternate, simple, dark green above. Flowers small, greenish. Fruit a 2-valved capsule. In mixed forest. The sweet-scented bark is scraped and boiled. The decoction is left to cool and applied to fire burns.
(1) The Carib name means 'cure for fire burns'.

Maytenus sp. TVA2445 **CELASTRACEAE**
Parakasana, Kaiarima (Ar).
Tree to 15m tall. Buttresses few, flat. Outer bark dark brown, rough, lenticellate, inner bark pink, wood white. Leaves alternate. Twigs ribbed, 4-angled when young. In mixed forest. Paddles are occasionally made from the buttresses. The paddles become reddish when coming in contact with water. The wood is also used as firewood. Informants might have confused this species with *Swartzia* spp.

Chrysobalanus icaco L. **CHRYSOBALANACEAE**
Wild fat pork (Cr), Kurimiru (Ar), Konoto epï, Ereyuru (C), Kokoho arau[1] (Wr).
Shrub or small tree. Stem with light lenticels. Leaves alternate, simple, round, leathery. Flowers small, white. Fruits ribbed, deep purple, sweet. Forming dense thickets along riverbanks and the edges of flooded savanna, Moruca. Fruits are collected from the riverbanks. The seeds are cut open to eat the endosperm. The cultivated form of this species has much larger, pink and spongy fruits. The latter are sold at the Georgetown market.
(1) The Warao name means 'pigeon tree'.

Couepia parillo DC. **CHRYSOBALANACEAE**
Counter, Small leaf counter (Cr), Hacheballi, Aiomoradan (Ar), Paripyo, Poripjori (C).
Tree to 25 m tall. Leaves alternate, simple, small, whitish below. Stipules long, caducous. Inflorescence rusty brown puberulous. Drupe pear-shaped, hard, light brown velutinous. Abundant in mixed forest, Barama. The wood is highly valued as firewood, like most Chrysobalanaceae. It splits easily in small sticks, burns good and is quickly lit, even when fresh and wet. The wood is preferred for the small fires under the circular iron plates used for baking cassava bread. Trees are deliberately felled for firewood.

Straight trunks are used for house posts. Firewood from Chrysobalanaceae is sold at the Moruca market.

Hirtella racemosa L. var. **racemosa** **CHRYSOBALANACEAE**
Counter (Cr), Bokoboko tokon (Ar), Kupesimirang (C).
Small tree. Stipules long, caducous. Leaves alternate, simple. Flowers small, corolla whitish pink, stamens long, persistent, dark pink. Drupe fleshy, black. Occasional in secondary forest. The wood is sawn into boards for house construction.

Licania alba (Bernouilli) Cuatrec. **CHRYSOBALANACEAE**
(Red) broad leaf counter (Cr), Kautaballi, Kaudanaro (Ar), Korokoro (C), Kwamara anahoro arau[1] (Wr).
Large tree. Leaves alternate, simple, silvery white below. Young branches, inflorescences, and flower buds yellowish pilose. Drupe pear-shaped, hard, yellowish brown velutinous. Abundant in mixed forest. The wood is highly valued as firewood for cassava baking. Chrysobalanaceae firewood is sold at the Moruca market.
(1) 'Agouti food tree', because this animal feeds on the seeds.

Licania heteromorpha Benth. var. **perplexans** Sandw. **CHRYSOBALANACEAE**
Redwood, Brown kairiballi, White kairiballi (Cr), Kairiballi, Buruburuli (Ar), Yapopare (C), Lababaru (Wr).
Tree to 20 m tall. Leaves alternate, simple, bluish green below. Young branches and inflorescence densely tomentose. Drupe globose, hard, yellowish brown velutinous. In mixed forest. In Moruca, the pleasantly scented bark is boiled with the water of one troolie seed (*Manicaria saccifera*) and a piece of wene wood (*Souroubea guianensis*). A litre bottle full of the tea should be taken for venereal diseases. The hard wood is used for house construction and arrow sockets. It is highly valued as firewood for cassava baking and sold at the Moruca market.

Licania incana Aubl. **CHRYSOBALANACEAE**
Fine leaf counter (Cr), Unikiakia, Marishiballi (Ar), Kuwepirang (C).
Tree to 15 m tall. Bark wrinkled and lenticellate. Leaves alternate, simple. Young leaves and twigs rusty puberulous. Inflorescence terminal. Drupe small, hard, brown. In quackal swamp forest. The wood is highly valued as firewood for baking cassava bread. Firewood from Chrysobalanaceae is sold at the Moruca market.

Licania kunthiana Hook.f. **CHRYSOBALANACEAE**
Christmas tree (Cr), Unikiakia (Ar).
Small tree. Outer bark brown, rough, inner bark orange brown, wood yellow, hard. Leaves alternate, simple, white below. Inflorescence grey puberulous. Drupe hard, brown. In disturbed primary forest, Moruca. Small trees are cut during Christmas and decorated with light bulbs.

Licania micrantha Miq**.** **CHRYSOBALANACEAE**
Counter, Red fine leaf counter (Cr), Marishiballi (Ar), Soroma, Wokïrï kupesini (C).
Tree to 25 m tall. Outer bark light brown, lenticellate, inner bark pink, wood light brown. Leaves alternate, simple, pinkish grey below. Inflorescence terminal, flower buds yellow. In mixed forest. The wood is highly valued as firewood for baking cassava bread. Firewood from Chrysobalanaceae is sold at the Moruca market.

Licania persaudii Fanshawe & Maguire **CHRYSOBALANACEAE**
Red fine leaf counter, Swamp counter (Cr), Kauta (Ar), Kuwepi (C).
Tree. Outer bark dark brown, inner bark red, wood yellowish. Leaves alternate, simple, whitish below. Drupe small, green. In mixed forest, Barama. The wood is locally used for flooring and walling. The wood is highly valued as firewood for baking cassava bread.

Licania sp. TVA2324 **CHRYSOBALANACEAE**
Fine leaf counter (Cr).
Tree to 20 m tall, with buttresses. Outer bark smooth, light brown, vertically cracked, inner bark red, wood white, sweet-scented. Leaves alternate, simple. In mixed forest, Moruca. The wood is valued as firewood for baking cassava bread. Chrysobalanaceae firewood is sold at the Moruca market.

Licania sp. TVA2332 **CHRYSOBALANACEAE**
White broad leaf counter (Ar).
Tree. Branches puberulous. Leaves alternate, simple, white, puberulous below, primary veins and midrib light brown. In mixed forest, Moruca. The wood is valued as firewood. Chrysobalanaceae firewood is sold at the Moruca market.

Buchenavia grandis Ducke **COMBRETACEAE**
Wild genip (Cr).
Medium-sized tree with flat crown. Leaves grouped together in tufts. Flowers in axillary spikes. Drupe fleshy, yellowish green. Seed 1, ellipsoid. In secondary forest on savanna edge. The tree is planted in house yards in Moruca. The bitter-sweet fruit pulp is edible and much esteemed. When in abundance, the fruits are sold on local markets. Children use the seeds as slingshot ammunition.

Combretum cacoucia (Baill.) Exell **COMBRETACEAE**
Yarimanni (Cr), Yariman (Ar), Sïkïma (C).
Liana. Flowers large, red, in long, rigid spikes. Calyx grey-green, filaments long, red. Fruit pyriform, grey-green tomentose, 5-angled. Common in manicole swamp. The fruits are dried in the sun, after which the poisonous seeds are grated and sprinkled in chicken pens to prevent vampire bats from attacking the fowl. Bats are repelled by the poisonous smell. Chicken do not eat the seeds.

Terminalia cf. **amazonia** (J.F. Gmel.) Exell **COMBRETACEAE**
Coffee mortar, Hill fukadi (Cr), Fukadi (Ar), Kwai (C).
Tree to 25 m tall. Leaves simple, alternate, grouped in tufts. Flowers yellowish green to white, in axillary, elongated spikes. Drupe flat, 5-angled. In mixed and secondary forest. The wood is used for floor scantling, uprights, rafters, and other housing material. Coffee mortars, however, are not made from this wood, but from mora (*Mora excelsa*), purpleheart (*Peltogyne venosa*), or suradanni (*Hyeronima alchorneoides*).

Terminalia cf. **dichotoma** G. Mey. **COMBRETACEAE**
Coffee mortar (Cr), Alaso abo[1], Fukadi (Ar), Kararawa akunepïrï[2] (C).
Large tree. Leaves simple, alternate, grouped in spaced tufts. Flowers white or yellow-green, in axillary spikes. Drupe fleshy, flattened, dark green. Occasional in Mora forest. The hard wood is used for housing and canoes.
(1) 'Turtle back', after the shape of the fruit (Fanshawe, 1949); (2) 'Peanut of the blue and yellow macaw' (Courtz, 1997).

Commelina sp. TVA1121 **COMMELINACEAE**
Terrestrial herb. Leaves alternate, simple, thin. Flowers not seen. In Mora forest, Barama. The plant is occasionally taken from the forest and planted in a pot or hanging basket as ornamental. Flowers were said to be purple and beautiful.

Commelina diffusa Burm. f. **COMMELINACEAE**
Rabbit grass, Green zeb grass, Canergrass, Cane of grass (Cr), Tyupu (C), Humaha (Wr).
Creeping herb. Leaves alternate, simple, sessile, fleshy, sheathed. Flowers small, bright blue. Forming dense patches in pastures. In Moruca, the branches are boiled and drunk for kidney problems and consequent swelling of the body. The tea must be drunk whenever the patient is thirsty. A medicine for biliousness and malaria is prepared by boiling three branches with three pear leaves (*Persea americana*). Caribs stimulate hair growth and prevent baldness by washing their hair frequently with extracts of this plant.

Tripogandra serrulata (Vahl) Handlos **COMMELINACEAE**

Zeb grass (Cr), Uhsenano epityï[1] (C), Humaha (Wr).

Perennial, creeping herb. Stem purple, nodes bright purple. Leaves alternate, simple, purple-green. Flowers pink. Common in pastures, often spared from weeding. A tea from this plant alone or with sweet broom (*Scoparia dulcis*) or pear leaves (*Persea americana*) is drunk with sugar and milk for biliousness. Caribs stimulate hair growth and prevent baldness by washing their hair frequently with extracts of this plant. Zeb grass tea is prepared to relieve kidney disorders and swelling of the body. It must be drunk regularly, whenever the patient is thirsty. The tea is taken by women to 'clean out' their ovarian tubes. In Georgetown, the tea is drunk as a laxative for bowel disorders, stomach ache, and colds. Boiled with stinging nettle (*Laportea aestuans*), it is drunk to bitter the blood and to relieve skin rash. Sold at the Georgetown herbal market.

(1) The Carib name means 'hair medicine'.

Bidens cynapiifolia Kunth **COMPOSITAE**

Spanish needle, Deer arrow, Jumbie arrow (Cr), Tebeyu, Yawahü shimara (Ar), Kïrerepiyamïri[1] (C), Masia hatabu (Wr).

Erect herb to 1.70 m high. Leaves alternate, bipinnate. Florets small, yellow. Fruit an achene with 4 awnes curved outwards. Common weed in cultivated fields. The whole plant is boiled in three litres of water. This tea should be taken during one month to relieve diabetes and lower the blood sugar level. Dry mokomoko leaves (*Montrichardia arborescens*) are added to the tea as well. A decoction of this plant is given in small quantities to babies suffering from thrush, and used as a foot bath to cure ground itch. Leaves are briefly heated in a fire and the sap is squeezed into sore eyes. The leaves are used in a bath or rubbed on the body against fever, sometimes mixed with a black banana leaf (*Musa* sp.). Sold at the Georgetown herbal market.

(1) 'Cricket neck' (Coles et al., 1971).

Cyathillium cinereum (L.) H. Rob. **COMPOSITAE**

Information bush[1], Inflammation bush (Cr), Murunya (Ar).

Erect herb to 60 cm high. Leaves alternate, 3-lobed. Inflorescence terminal. Florets pink to purple. Achenes short, bristly, straw-coloured, pappus white. Common weed in cultivated fields. The whole plant is boiled with wild black pepper (*Croton trinitatis*) and St. John's bush (*Justicia secunda*) to 'clean out' ovarian tubes. A tea from information bush, St. John's bush, and white cleary (*Heliotropium indicum*) is reputed as an abortifacient. In Georgetown, a decoction of minnie root (*Ruellia tuberosa*), information bush, wild black pepper and one leaf of broad leaf thyme (*Coleus amboinicus*) is prescribed for 'women's problems', to relieve menstruation pains, decrease excessive vaginal discharge, or to clean out womb and ovarian tubes after birth. The tea is drunk just before the menstruation to get it started, or taken the second or third day to ease it down. Men must drink a tea from information bush to cure impotence, and mix egg white and flour into the tea to cure gonorrhoea. Sold at the Georgetown herbal market.

(1) The Creole term 'information' refers to pus.

Erechtites hieracifolia (L.) Raf. ex DC. **COMPOSITAE**

Dandelion (Cr), Pakara marityïrï[1](C).

Erect herb to 50 cm high. Leaves simple, spirally arranged, dentate, purplish when young. Panicles terminal. Florets yellow, pappus white. In pastures and as weed in cultivated fields. The leaves are macerated and put as a poultice on sores. The sap is squeezed in the sores as a disinfectant.

(1) The Carib name signifies 'down of the pegall'. A pegall is a small, square basket, often adorned with soft feathers (resembling the white pappus of this plant).

Hebeclinium macrophyllum (L.) DC. **COMPOSITAE**

Cat ears (Cr).

Erect herb to 75 cm high. Leaves simple, triangular, strong-scented. Florets small, white. Weed in cultivated and abandoned fields. Two plants are boiled with sugar and two leaf of life leaves (*Bryophyllum pinnatum*) to make a remedy for whooping cough. The tea should be drunk until the symptoms have disappeared. It is said to be particular effective to treat children. Boiling cat ears with wild maran (*Pityrogramma calomelanos*) makes a medicine for heavy chest colds, bronchitis, pneumonia, whooping cough, asthma, and tuberculosis.

Sphagneticola trilobata (L.) Pruski **COMPOSITAE**
Daisy, Yellow daisy (Cr).
Low herb. Branches spreading and rooting. Leaves opposite, weakly 3-lobed. Florets dark yellow. Common in pastures. The whole plant is boiled, sometimes with toyeau (*Justicia pectoralis*), and drunk for colds, but also just as tea. The tea is boiled down with sugar into a cough syrup. Children suck the nectar from the flowers and say it is good for their 'building up'. Sold at the Georgetown herbal market.

Struchium sparganophorum (L.) Kuntze **COMPOSITAE**
Ants bush (Cr), Hayoudan (Ar), Muha bebe (Wr).
Annual, fleshy herb to 40 cm high. Leaves alternate, simple, puberulous. Florets white, in tight axillary clusters. Achenes angled, pappus white. In pastures and as weed in cultivated fields, sometimes spared from weeding in house yards. The whole plant is boiled or heated over a fire and squeezed. A spoonful of the sap or tea with a little salt is given to babies suffering from thrush. Sold at the Georgetown herbal market.

Tilesia baccata (L.f.) Pruski **COMPOSITAE**
Wild pine, Turtle food (Cr), Warife (Ar), Kamararai (C), Hukuhuku anahoro[1] (Wr).
Scrambling shrub. Leaves alternate, simple, rough. Florets yellow and orange. Fruit greenish black, in pine-like infructescence, fruiting sepals orange, spiny. In secondary forest along roads. The fruit pulp is sweet and edible, mostly eaten by children. Fruits may be collected in large amounts to make an alcoholic drink ('paiwari').
(1) The Warao name means 'hummingbird food'.

Dicranostyles sp. TVA2630 **CONVOLVULACEAE**
Large woody climber. Outer bark light brown, ribbed. Wood yellow, strong-scented. Leaves alternate. Fruit dark yellow, thick-skinned, with a thin, starchy layer around the large seed. In mixed forest, Barima. Only few people mentioned the fruits as edible.

Ipomoea cf. **asarifolia** (Desv.) Roem. & Schult. **CONVOLVULACEAE**
Wild potato (Cr).
Vine, rooting at the nodes. Stem twining. Leaves alternate, heart- to kidney-shaped, purple-green. Flowers white or lavender. In manicole swamps. In Assakata, the stem is used as a bush rope to tie bundles of palm hearts.

Ipomoea quamoclit L. **CONVOLVULACEAE**
Sweet william (Cr).
Creeping vine. Leaves alternate, deeply pinnatifid. Flower trumpet-shaped, deep red. Growing as weed in cultivated fields, planted in house yards as ornamental.

Maripa scandens Aubl. **CONVOLVULACEAE**
Monkey syrup (Cr), Howa soropan (Ar).
Liana or scrambling shrub. Leaves alternate, simple, elliptic. Flowers in large racemes, showy, velvety pilose, calyx purplish, corolla white. Fruits brown, pulp black. Along riverbanks. The fruits are edible and sweet.

Costus arabicus L. **COSTACEAE**
White congo cane (Cr), Eseyundu (C).
Shrubby herb to 2 m high. Leaves simple, spirally arranged, cordate at base. Inflorescence cone-like. Bracts green. Flowers white, labellum spreading. Common in open secondary vegetation and disturbed forest. The fruit pulp with the seeds is used as bait in traps to catch pigeons. Young shoots are boiled and drunk for colds. The ginger-like tea is boiled down with sugar into a cough syrup. The stem is heated in the fire, pounded and the sap is squeezed out. A spoonful is drunk for colds. The boiled stems are put as a poultice on sores. Shoots are boiled with sugar and sweet potato (*Ipomoea batatas*), and

left to ferment with some yeast to make a strong alcoholic drink called ‘congo cane local’. The drink is also made with *C. scaber* and *C. erythrothyrsus*.

Costus erythrothyrsus Loes. **COSTACEAE**
Red congo cane, Old field congo cane, Mauby (Cr), Eseyundu (C).
Erect herb to 1.5 m high. Leaves simple, spirally arranged. Inflorescence on separate, leafless stem, peduncle with red and green bands. Bracts red. Flowers red. In disturbed mixed forest and abandoned fields. The shoots are peeled, boiled, and drunk for colds, or boiled down with sugar into a cough syrup. The shoots are occasionally boiled with sugar and sweet potato (*Ipomoea batatas*), and left to ferment with some yeast to make a strong alcoholic drink known as ‘mauby’. The drink is more often made with *C. scaber* or *C. arabicus*.

Melothria pendula L. **CUCURBITACEAE**
Baby cucumber, Wild pumpkin (Cr), Wayoma watï[1] (C).
Delicate vine. Leaves alternate, palmately lobed, with sticky hairs. Tendrils springlike. Flowers very small, yellow. Berry fleshy. Seeds numerous. Rare in secondary shrubland. The small cucumbers are eaten with salt.
(1) The Carib name means ‘looks like pumpkin’.

Cyathea cyatheoides (Desv.) Kramer **CYATHEACEAE**
Palawala plimpla (Ar), Ohi shakaida (Wr).
Tree fern to 2 m high. Stem densely covered with brown scales. Petiole dark brown, spined. Leaves ca. 1 m long. Spores light brown. Rare in mixed forest, Moruca. The stem is chopped into pieces and boiled into a remedy for hernia and a strained back accompanied with blood in the urine.

Asplundia gleasonii Harling **CYCLANTHACEAE**
Small nibi (Cr).
Small hemi-epiphyte. Thin aerial roots. Leaves alternate, bifid. Young leaves entire. Spadix with threadlike, white staminodes. Abundant in swamp forest on pegasse, growing on trunks or creeping on the forest floor. The aerial roots are used as minor binding material, to strap the feet of game animals caught in the forest.

Cyclanthus bipartitus Poit. **CYCLANTHACEAE**
Haimara tail, Bakawari bush (Cr), Wanauwanari (Ar), Aimara andïkïrï[1] (C).
Acaulescent herb to 3 m high. Leaves alternate, bifid. Spadix large, cylindrical. Fruits in separate rings, arranged like a corkscrew. In flooded riverbank vegetation, Barama. The leaves are used to weave a ‘stopper’, a small shelter to protect goods from the rain.
(1) ‘Haimara tail’, after the bifid leaves.

Evodianthus funifer (Poit.) Lindm. subsp. **funifer** **CYCLANTHACEAE**
Bastard nibi, Maam nibi (Cr), Inyamuyakawariyï[1] (C).
Hemi-epiphyte, with root climbing stems to 15 m long. Thin aereal roots. Leaves alternate, deeply bifid. Spadix small, green, with threadlike, white staminodes. Abundant in mixed forest. The aerial roots are not very strong and used as a minor binding material to strap the feet of game animals or tie packages of fish, bait or other small forest products wrapped in leaves. Locals often confuse this plant with scraping nibi (*Thoracocarpus bissectus*), a species with much stronger roots that are used in basketry weaving.
(1) The Carib name means ‘maam nibi’, after the maam bird (*Tinamus major*).

Cyperus articulatus L. **CYPERACEAE**
Piripiri (C).
Perennial herb to 2 m high. Rhizome reddish. Culms terete. Inflorescence straw-coloured, bracts 2, erect. In lake shores and ditches, cultivated in Barama house yards. The rhizome is grated and boiled to relieve stomach ache.

Cyperus digitatus Roxb. **CYPERACEAE**
Real bizzibizzi (Cr), Sara (C).
Perennial herb to 1.5 m high. Rhizome red. Leaf edges rough. Inflorescence a umbel-like corymb, spikelets green. In ditches and as weed in cultivated fields. The peduncle is pulled out and pounded on one end into a fibrous brush. It is used to paint names on boats, houses, or grave crosses. The rhizome is briefly heated over the fire and its sap is squeezed into sore eyes.

Cyperus ligularis L. **CYPERACEAE**
Bizzibizzi, Razorgrass (Cr), Yente, Bioro (Ar), Hakaru kura (Wr).
Erect herb. Stems triangular. Leaf edges sharp. Leaf blades, culms, and rays papillose. Corymbs compact, green. In ditches and riverbanks, also planted in house yards. The sap from the heated rhizome or stem is squeezed into sore eyes or in the ear to relieve earache. Assakata schoolchildren said the soft stem base was edible.

Cyperus odoratus L. **CYPERACEAE**
Watermomma bina (Cr), Shikishiki[1], Yawahü yadala[2] (Ar), Turara (C).
Erect herb to 2 m high. Rhizome bulbous, inner tissue fleshy, creamy yellow, with a strong spicy smell. Stem triangular. Corymbs umbel-like. In disturbed areas, often cultivated in house yards. The rhizome is grated and boiled into a tea to relieve stomach ache. Babies suffering from cramps are given some gratings mixed with breast milk. The plant is said to 'whistle' in the breeze and possess magic powers, strong enough to chase off the Waterwoman and other evil spirits. The aromatic rhizome is grated and massaged on the skin with (coconut) oil to protect oneself against the bad eye. Small children crying all night and suffering from fever are believed to be influenced by spirits. Rhizome gratings are squeezed in a spoon and the sap is given to the baby, or the gratings are rubbed on the child's body. Spirits do not like the scent of this plant. The rhizome is cut into pieces and sewn on a string as a bracelet or chain for babies to protect them from evil spirits.
(1) Derived from the Arawak word for spirit 'mashishikiri' (Fanshawe, 1949); (2) 'Jumbie knife', after the sharp leaves (Fanshawe, 1949).

Cyperus surinamensis Roxb. **CYPERACEAE**
Grass (Cr).
Annual herb to 30 cm high. Leaves with sharp edges. Corymbs broad, umbel-like. Spikelets green. Very abundant in pastures. The peduncle is pulled out, pounded or chewed on one end into a paintbrush.

Eleocharis mitrata (Griseb.) C.B. Clarke **CYPERACEAE**
Fart grass, Bizzibizzi (Cr), Bioro (Ar).
Perennial, stoloniferous herb. Culms terete. Leaves bladeless, reduced to sheaths. Inflorescence a solitary, terminal, many-flowered spikelet. In extensive monospecific stands in flooded savannas, able to survive frequent burning. The hollow stems are woven into small handicraft items like bookmarkers.

Rhynchospora cephalotes (L.) Vahl **CYPERACEAE**
Old man's bush, Man grass, Black man's head (Cr), Muleshirang (C).
Clump-forming herb to 1 m high. Inflorescences single, congested heads of many green spikelets, subtended by 2 leaflike bracts. Abundant in pastures. To stop hair loss, the hair is washed during seven mornings with this plant. The whole herb with rhizome is briefly heated and put on hurting spots on the body to ease pain. Bundles of this herb are thrown in the fire. Persons suffering with pain are required to sit in this smoke for three mornings.

Scleria microcarpa Nees **CYPERACEAE**
Razorgrass (Cr), Yuruka, Kamanali (Ar).
Perennial, clump-forming herb to 3 m high. Rhizome purple-red. Leaves and stem rough. Inflorescence terminal, laxly paniculate, straw-coloured. In frequently burned, seasonally flooded savannas. To make a dart, children pull out the stem, put a spine in front, and throw or blow it with a blowpipe made from a hollow twig.

Scleria secans (L.) Urb. **CYPERACEAE**
Razorgrass (Cr), Yuruka, Kamanali (Ar), Sayu (C), Kakara (Wr).
Climbing vine to 10 m long, sprawling over the ground, over shrubs, and into the lower canopy. Leaf edges very sharp. Very common as weed in cultivated fields, forming dense thickets in abandoned fields. The leaves, sharp like razor blades, are hung in the roof to scare away bats. The animals cut their wings when touching it. To make a dog hunt better, his nose is cut with this grass and rubbed with pepper juice (*Capsicum annuum*).

Tapura guianensis Aubl. **DICHAPETALACEAE**
Mamuriballi, Waiaballi, Waiadan (Ar), Wasakau (C).
Small tree. Leaves alternate, leathery. Flowers yellow, in densely crowded glomerules, sessile on the petioles. Drupe greenish yellow, tomentose. In mixed forest. The wood is used for house posts.

Davilla kunthii A. St.-Hil. **DILLENIACEAE**
Fire rope, Red kapadula (Cr), Kabuduli (Ar), Tameyu-u, Ereyunde (C), Ero karara, Ero simuida (Wr).
Woody climber or scrambling shrub. Leaves alternate, simple, rough. Panicles terminal. Capsule orange. Common in secondary shrubland and disturbed mixed forest. When a piece of the woody stem is cut and held upside down, the clear water flowing from the wood can be drunk. The sap is prescribed for snakebite victims, as rain or river water worsens their condition. Pregnant women are warned not to drink it, as it may cause abortion, but women sometimes deliberately use it for this purpose. Scratched watch glasses are polished with the rough leaves. In remote areas, kapadula leaves are burned in the fire, ground to powder, and rubbed on the recently cut umbilical cord of a newborn baby. This will quickly dry the navel and cause the remainder to drop off. Kapadula wood is the main ingredient of kapadula wine, a popular aphrodisiac made with the following ingredients: locust (*Hymenaea courbaril*), cockshun (*Smilax schomburgkiana*), kufa (*Clusia* spp.), sarsparilla (*Dioscorea trichanthera*), monkey ladder (*Bauhinia* spp.), granny backbone (*Curarea candicans*), and devildoer (*Strychnos* spp.). The ingredients are boiled in water for an hour or soaked in alcohol to make a tonic. The concoction is added to milkshakes, porridge, or other dishes. It is said to be good for the 'nature', strengthen the body, and protect against diseases. The crude ingredients and ready-made aphrodisiacs are sold at the Georgetown market. Several Dilleniaceae are called kapadula and are used similarly (see *Tetracera volubilis* subsp. *volubilis*).

Doliocarpus cf. **dentatus** (Aubl.) Standl. subsp. **dentatus** **DILLENIACEAE**
White kapadula, Kabuduli (Ar), Tameyu-u (C).
Woody climber. Stem flaky, with concentric rings in cross section. Leaves alternate, simple, rough below, margins serrate. Flowers in fascicles. Berry cherry-red. Saplings in secondary forest, adults in mixed forest. The clear water from the stem is drunk to relieve thirst, for snakebites, as a remedy for cough and cold, and to provoke abortion. The wood is chipped and boiled alone or with various other ingredients (see *Davilla kunthii*) to make aphrodisiac beverages. The ashes from burnt leaves are used to disinfect navel cords. The wood is sold at the Georgetown herbal market.

Pinzona sp. TVA2509 **DILLENIACEAE**
Kapadula (Cr), Red devildoer (Cr).
Large woody climber. Stem flaky, with concentric rings in cross section. Petiole winged. Leaves alternate, simple, margins entire. Inflorescence paniculate. Berries paired, green to red. In mixed forest. The clear water from the stem is drunk to relieve thirst, for snakebites, as a remedy for cough and cold, and to provoke abortion. The wood is chipped and boiled alone or with various other ingredients (see *Davilla kunthii*) into aphrodisiac beverages. Burnt leaves are used to disinfect navel cords. Leaves and branches are boiled and drunk to treat diabetes. The wood is sold at the Georgetown herbal market.

Tetracera asperula Miq. **DILLENIACEAE**
Fire rope, Kapadula (Cr), Kabuduli, Halichimanni (Ar), Tameyu-u (C).
Woody climber or vigorously scrambling shrub. Leaves alternate, simple, rough. Racemes terminal. Flowers pale pink. Fruit a green follicle. In secondary forest on white sand. The water from the stem is drunk to relieve thirst, for snakebites, as a remedy for cough and cold, and to provoke abortion. The wood is boiled alone or with other ingredients (see *Davilla kunthii*) into aphrodisiac beverages. The burnt leaves are used to disinfect navel cords.

Tetracera tigarea DC. **DILLENIACEAE**
Kapadula (Cr), Kabuduli (Ar), Ereyunde (C).
Large woody climber. Stem reddish brown, flaky. Leaves rough. Racemes terminal. Flowers yellow. Follicle green. Seed white. Aril bright yellow. In Mora forest. The water from the stem is drunk to relieve thirst, for snakebites, as a remedy for cough and cold, and to provoke abortion. The wood is boiled alone or with other ingredients (see *Davilla kunthii*) into aphrodisiac beverages. The burnt leaves are used to disinfect navel cords.

Dioscorea cf. **riparia** Kunth & R. Schomb. ex Kunth **DIOSCOREACEAE**
Granny backbone (Cr)
Creeping vine. Tubers epiphytic, spiny, woody. Stem densely covered with sharp spines. Leaves alternate, simple, palmately veined. Fruit a 3-winged capsule. Rare in Mora forest, Barama. The spines are used to take jiggers from the feet.

Cyclodium meniscioides (Willd.) C. Pres. var. **meniscioides** **DRYOPTERIDACEAE**
Big leaf baboon tail (Cr), Ituri hi (Ar), Arawata andïkïrï (C), Wai ahu (Wr).
Hemi-epiphytic fern. Rhizome creeping, covered with long, reddish brown, hair-like scales. Fronds mono- or dimorphic. Fertile pinnae small. Common in Mora and mixed forest. The coiled rhizome, resembling a howler monkey tail, is washed and boiled (with the scales). Children suffering from whooping cough are given the tea and are bathed with the same decoction. Hanging the rhizome around the neck of the patient is believed to alleviate whooping cough as well. The scales are removed and the scraped rhizome is put on abscesses.

Diospyros guianensis (Aubl.) Guerke subsp. **guianensis** **EBENACEAE**
Barrabarra (swamp type) (Cr), Barabara (Ar).
Tree to 25 m tall. Outer bark dark brown to black, inner bark yellow. Leaves alternate, simple, rusty puberulous when young. Petals green, folded. Berry leathery, crowned by calyx. In swamp forest on pegasse. The wood is sometimes sawn into boards or used to make cricket bats and balls. The fruit pulp is occasionally eaten.

Diospyros tetrandra Hiern. **EBENACEAE**
Graterwood, Barrabarra (Cr), Barabara (Ar), Simyarï epï (C).
Medium-sized tree, with small buttresses. Outer bark greenish black, inner bark bright yellow. Leaves alternate, simple. Flowers greenish yellow, petals stiff, folded. Berry leathery, crowned by calyx. In mixed forest. The fruits are occasionally eaten.

Sloanea grandiflora J.E. Smith **ELAEOCARPACEAE**
Broad leaf (Cr), Shirabuliballi, Arorodan[1] (Ar), Poro arï (C), Naidu, Dau anaidau (Wr).
Medium-sized tree. Leaves alternate, simple, large. Petiole long. Flowers rosaceous, with many brushy anthers. Capsule green, covered with long, soft, spines. Common in Mora forest, Barama. The leaves are used as wrapping material, to 'hamper' cassava bread. When a lot of bread is baked for storage, sale, or transport, the flat cakes are piled between two tondoli baskets (made with an aerial root of *Clusia* spp.). The piles are tightly wrapped in the large leaves and tied with maho straps into firm packages. The cassava 'hampers' are brought to the market or carried into the gold mines to supply the workers with food. The leaves are only used by Caribs.
(1) 'Porcupine tree' after the spiny fruit (Fanshawe, 1949).

Sloanea cf. **guianensis** (Aubl.) Benth. **ELAEOCARPACEAE**
Parakusana, Aruadan, Siraboliballi (Ar), Kuseweran[1] (C).
Tree to 40 m, with triangular buttresses. Leaves opposite, elliptic. Flowers fragrant, yellow to white. Capsule small, with slender bristles. Occasional in mixed forest. Paddles are carved from the plank roots.
(1) The Carib name refers to the fruits, which resemble those of kusewe (*Bixa orellana*).

Sloanea latifolia (Rich.) K. Schum. **ELAEOCARPACEAE**
Bastard hakia (Cr), Tokuhsa (C).
Tree to 25 m tall. Leaves clustered at branch end, with circular leaf scars. Petiole long, pulvinus woody. Inflorescence a compound, pale brown corymb. Occasional in secondary forest. The heartwood of this tree is used to make axe handles, the rest of the wood serves as firewood. The wood is said to be very hard.

Sloanea obtusifolia (Moric.) K. Schum. **ELAEOCARPACEAE**
Fine leaf arrowstick (Cr), Karupana (Ar).
Large tree with flat buttresses. Outer bark purplish brown, inner bark dark yellow. Twigs puberulous. Leaves alternate, rounded. Racemes few-flowered. Capsule with soft, slender spines. Rare in mixed forest, Moruca. Paddles and boards are carved from the plank roots. The wood is used for riverbank sheet-piles (kokers) and arrow sockets.

Erythroxylum macrophyllum Cav. **ERYTHROXYLACEAE**
Aligator footprint[1], Aligator toe bone (Cr), Akarï tapurarakïrï (C).
Small tree. Leaves alternate, simple, large. Stipules long. Flowers small, in axillary fascicles. Drupe small, red, fleshy. Rare in mixed forest, Barama. The wood is used in house construction (runners).
(1) The Creole names are translations of the Carib name.

Alchorneopsis floribunda (Benth.) Müll. Arg. **EUPHORBIACEAE**
Swamp duka (Cr), Kanakudji (white type), Kanaküdiballi (Ar), Waraekone (C).
Medium-sized tree, small stilt roots. Leaves alternate, 3-pliveined, two glands at base. Inflorescence axillary, spiciform thyrses. Capsule small, green to red. In secondary forest (Barama) and swamp forest on pegasse. The wood is soft and white, and occasionally used for boards, furniture, and firewood.

Chaetocarpus schomburgkianus (Kuntze) Pax & Hoffm. **EUPHORBIACEAE**
White olo, White iron mary, Axe blunter[1] (Cr), Ulu, Ruri, Boboroballi (Ar), Wïyekane (C).
Medium-sized tree. alternate, simple. Stipules leafy, caducous. Flowers apetalous, in dense axillary clusters. Capsule reddish brown, spiny. Common in mixed forest. The wood is said to be very hard, used occasionally to make canoes, boards, and house frames, and as firewood. The aromatic bark is boiled with the bark of black maho (*Rollinia exsucca*) and black yarula (*Aspidosperma excelsum*) in a herbal bath to get rid of evil spirits. The bark is occasionally sold in Amerindian villages for this purpose.
(1) This Creole name is a translation of the Carib name.

Croton cuneatus Klotzsch **EUPHORBIACEAE**
Cartabac corn (Cr), Tassi (C).
Shrubby tree with red sap. Leaves alternate, simple, covered with lepidote scales, two large glands at leaf base. Flowers in terminal spikes. Capsule weakly 3-lobed. In riverbank Mora forest, Barima. Ripe fruits are used as fish bait to catch cartabacs (*Myleus rubripinnis*). People wait near this plant to shoot the fish as it jumps from the water to feed on the fruits.

Croton trinitatis Millsp. **EUPHORBIACEAE**
Wild black pepper, Wild massala, Rock balsam (Cr).
Herb to 1.5 m high. Leaves alternate, simple, narrowly triangular, with 2 stalked glands at base, margins serrate. Flowers straw-coloured, in a terminal inflorescence. Weed in open secondary vegetation. A tea from the whole plant boiled with information bush (*Cyathillium cinereum*), St. John's bush (*Justicia secunda*), one leaf of broad leaf thyme (*Coleus amboinicus*), and/or minnie root (*Ruellia tuberosa*) is prescribed for 'women's problems', to relieve menstruation pains, decrease excessive

vaginal discharge, or to clean out womb and ovarian tubes after birth. The tea is drunk just before the menstruation to get it started, or taken on the second or third day to ease it down. Sold at the Georgetown herbal market.

Hyeronima alchorneoides Allemão var. **alchorneoides** **EUPHORBIACEAE**
Baradanni, Suradani (Ar).
Large tree. Stipules leaflike. Leaves alternate, simple, clustered at branch end. Spikes erect, greenish yellow. Drupe, small, black with purplish red juice. Rare in mixed forest, Barima. The wood is a commercial timber, locally preferred for canoes, floors, and furniture.

Hyeronima alchorneoides Allemão var. **stipulosa** Franco **EUPHORBIACEAE**
Suradani (Cr), Suradan (Ar), Ako (C), Duru (Wr).
Large tree. Stipules leaflike. Leaves alternate, simple, large. Petioles long. Spikes erect, greenish yellow. Drupe small, black. Common in Mora and mixed forest. The heavy wood is a commercial timber, locally preferred for canoes, floors, furniture, house construction, and coffee mortars.

Mabea piriri Aubl. **EUPHORBIACEAE**
Swizzle stick (Cr), Bariri-kuti[1] (Ar), Yukuyapoi (C).
Small tree with white latex. Lower branches in whorls. Leaves alternate, simple, glabrous, long-acuminate, margins serrate. Inflorescence a terminal thyrse. Capsule grey-green. Abundant in Mora, secondary, and mixed forest. The whorled stem is trimmed into a swizzle to beat chocolate milk or banana porridge. The latex is dripped into sore or misty eyes. The wood is said to last long and is used as roundwood in house construction.
(1) 'Hawk foot', after whorled branching (Fanshawe, 1949).

Maprounea guianensis Aubl. **EUPHORBIACEAE**
Awati (Ar), Pirapisi (C).
Medium-sized tree. Outer bark dark brown, inner bark orange, wood white. Leaves alternate, simple, small, with abundant white latex. Flowers small. Capsule brownish red. Occasional in secondary forest on white sand, Moruca. The leaves are boiled in a herbal bath for sores and itching skin.

Microstachys corniculata (Vahl) Griseb. **EUPHORBIACEAE**
Fowl cock tongue (Cr).
Small herb. Leaves alternate, simple, puberulous, rounded at base. Flowers very small, red. Capsule green, spiny. In pastures and along roads, Moruca. The whole plant is boiled and given in small quantities to babies suffering from thrush. Three leaves of fowl cock tongue, tetakabora leaves (*Axonopus compressus*), and soursop (*Annona muricata*) are boiled together. One cup of the tea is taken each morning to keep down irregular heart beats. The tea is taken for headache as well. The decoction is also used to cleanse cut and sores.

Omphalia diandra L. **EUPHORBIACEAE**
Wild pawpaw, Sourie (Cr), Ana, Sito, Meku kuwa-ire (C).
Liana, with slimy, white latex, quickly oxidising to red. Climbing with tendrillate shoots. Leaves alternate, simple, rounded, with long petioles. Berry large, green, with 3 large, brown seeds. In riverbank Mora forest, Barima. The seeds are put on a hook as bait to catch morocots. The seeds are occasionally eaten, but might be mildly toxic.

Pera glabrata (Schott) Baill. **EUPHORBIACEAE**
Hachiballi (Ar).
Tree to 35 m tall. Outer bark smooth, dark green, horizontally grooved. Leaves alternate, simple. Flowers axillary, involucral bract cream. Rare in secondary forest, Moruca. The wood is occasionally sawn into boards.

Plukenetia polyadenia Müll. Arg. **EUPHORBIACEAE**
Sourie, Wild pawpaw (Cr).
Woody climber. Leaves alternate, simple, base rounded, petiole long. Inflorescences axillary racemes. Capsule large, green, 4-ribbed. Seeds large, brown, woody. In Mora forest and manicole swamp. The seeds are put on a hook as bait to catch morocots. The seeds are split open with a knife to eat the nut (endocarp).

Sapium jenmanii Hemsl. **EUPHORBIACEAE**
Rubber tree (Cr), Haiahaia (Ar), Mabuwa (Ar, C).
Tree to 40 m tall. Latex abundant, thick, creamy. Leaves alternate, simple. Inflorescence elongate, terminal, simple, yellowish green. Rare in mixed forest, Barama. After slashing the bark the latex quickly becomes rubbery. The latex strips are removed the following day and rolled up into bumper balls.

Senefeldera sp. TVA1369 **EUPHORBIACEAE**
Small tree. Latex white. Leaves alternate, simple, with thickened pulvinus. Rare in secondary forest, Barama. The trunks are occasionally used as roof rafters.

Casearia aff. **acuminata** DC. **FLACOURTIACEAE**
Akare-u (C).
Small tree. Inner bark pink, wood white, sweet-scented. Leaf margins dentate. Rare in secondary forest, Barama. A handful of bark scrapings is warmed in water and stuffed between the toes to cure ground itch.

Casearia javitensis Kunth **FLACOURTIACEAE**
Deerfoot (Cr), Kibihidan[1] (Ar), Arawata mureru[2] (C).
Tree to 17 m tall. Leaves glabrous, glossy, coarsely serrate. Flowers in axillary fascicles. Capsule brown. In secondary forest. The wood is used for firewood and traditional Arawak kitchen walls in 'wattle and stave' style, in which young stems are used entirely or split and woven between a horizontal frame.
(1) 'Nose bear tree', after the smell (Fanshawe, 1949); (2) 'Baboon bench' (Courtz, 1997).

Laetia procera (Poepp.) Eichl. **FLACOURTIACEAE**
Firemomma (Cr), Siribidan, Shurubadan, Warakaioro (Ar), Arokoyuru, Mainyapo[1] (C), Heroku (Wr).
Tree to 40 m tall. Crown umbrella-shaped. Stipules long, caducous. Leaf margins serrate. Flowers in axillary bundles. Capsule red-brown, velutinous. Common in secondary forest and abandoned fields. In the past, the bark of this tree was removed, dried thoroughly and cut into strips of 1 m long and tied on a stick. The bark was lighted as a torch, which was said to burn for a long time. The wood is a commercial timber, locally popular as firewood and comparable to Chrysobalanaceae wood.
(1) The Carib name means 'old field tree', referring to its habitat.

Codonanthe crassifolia (Focke) C.V. Morton **GESNERIACEAE**
Bird vine, Green thick leaf (Cr).
Epiphyte, often growing on ants nests. Leaves small, succulent, reddish. Flowers tubular, white, flushed with pink. Berry dark purple. Common in cultivated fruit trees, Moruca. The sap from briefly heated leaves is squeezed into infected eyes, or when people are loosing their vision. This medicine was said to 'work like spectacles'.

Gnetum nodiflorum Brongn. **GNETACEAE**
Tauwa nut (Cr), Tauwa (C).
Woody climber. Latex little, sticky, pinkish grey. Leaves opposite, leathery. Inflorescences whorls of spikes. Drupe ellipsoid, greenish grey to pink. Seed brown. Occasional in Mora and mixed forest, Barama. The seeds are roasted in hot ashes for five minutes, peeled, and eaten. Pregnant women are warned not to use the seeds, since they can cause abortions. Even cutting the liana during pregnancy is believed to provoke a miscarriage.

Andropogon bicornis L. **GRAMINEAE**
Sautin bush, Razorgrass, Horsetail grass, Jumbie coat (Cr), Herba sede (Sp), Kawaio-hi[1] (Ar).
High grass. Stem reddish green. Inflorescence a terminal panicle. Joints with long, white hairs. Abundant in degraded pasture on white sand or rocky laterite. In the past, the silky hairs were used to stuff pillows and mattresses. Children use the hollow stems as straws to drink water.
(1) 'Horse tail', derived from 'caballo', the Spanish word for horse (Fanshawe, 1949).

Axonopus compressus (Sw.) P. Beauv. **GRAMINEAE**
Tetakabora, Tatakaboro[1] (Ar).
Tufted, strongly stoloniferous herb. Stolons purple. Culms to 60 cm high. Sheaths puberulous. Inflorescences of 2-4 divergent racemes. In pastures and house yards. Three leaves of tetakabora, fowl cock tongue (*Microstachys corniculata*), and soursop (*Annona muricata*) are boiled together. One cup of the tea is taken each morning to keep down irregular heart beats. The tea is also taken for headache and used to cleanse cut and sores.
(1) 'Hard-fingered' after the strong stolons (Fanshawe, 1949).

Coix lacryma-jobi L. **GRAMINEAE**
Job's tears, Buck beads (Cr), Tawasi (C).
Herb to 2 m high. Leaves linear, glabrous. Inflorescences numerous, compound, male florescence protruding from the terminal pore of an ovoid, bony, bead-like sheath. Weed in pastures in coastal Guyana, cultivated in the interior. The bony sheaths are used as beads. Chains from these beads are commercialised in the capital.

Eleusine indica L. **GRAMINEAE**
Man grass, Goosefoot grass (Cr), Bebe nibora[1], Humaha (Wr).
Tufted grass to 30 cm high. Leaves strongly keeled. Inflorescences composed of 2-5 spikes, radiating from peduncle. Spikelets in two rows along the axis. Common in pastures and house yards. The tea from man grass is taken for body swelling. The grass is sometimes boiled with sweetheart (*Desmodium* spp.) and black potato vine (*Ipomoea batatas*), and drunk to stop haemorrhage. The grass is pounded, mixed with water, and given to dogs when they are passing blood when coughing. When drunk steadily during the menstruation, man grass tea works as a contraceptive. Women should not use salt at the same time, since this would make the medicine ineffective. A herbal bath against evil spirits or bad spells is prepared with man grass, a bundle of lemongrass (*Cymbopogon citratus*), and bamboo leaves (*Bambusa vulgaris*). People wash their hair with man grass to prevent it from falling out. Sold at the Georgetown market.
(1) This Warao name means 'man grass'.

Olyra longifolia Kunth **GRAMINEAE**
High bush bamboo (Cr), Raroballi (Ar), Karisho (C).
Clump-forming, perennial herb to 3 m high. Internodes shiny, reddish, nodes thickened. Inflorescences from upper nodes, racemiform, spreading. In forest gaps and open areas. Children make whistles from the hollow stems.

Panicum pilosum Sw. **GRAMINEAE**
Bamboo (small type), Donkey grass (Cr).
Perennial herbs, extensively sprawling, creeping and rooting at the bluish green nodes. Inflorescence terminal, light green, to 25 cm long, spreading. In secondary shrubland along roads, Moruca. The leaves are fed to cows that have problems with delivering their calves. Twenty minutes after consuming the leaves, they will start to give birth. These leaves are judged more effective than those of

the large bamboo (*Bambusa vulgaris*). People in Moruca believe that at midnight, this plant produces small black seeds which bring fortune and richness. When the seeds appear, the plant is said to moan and grunt like a mother giving birth. If the seeds are picked, the plant will become annoyed and cause serious problems. A rice bag is carefully spread under the plant to collect the falling seeds, which are secretly kept at home as magic objects. People said they learnt this from the Surinamese.

Calophyllum brasiliense Camb. **GUTTIFERAE**
Kachikamo[1] (Sp?), Kurahara[2] (Ar, C).
Tree, 20 m tall. Outer bark dark brown, rough, vertically cracked. Latex sticky, yellowish transparent. Drupe fleshy, light green. In swamp forest on pegasse, Moruca. In the coastal swamplands, the wood is favoured for boards, housing and canoes.
(1) This name was said to be Spanish, but it is probably of indigenous origin; (2) The Carib term 'kuriala' and the Creole term 'corial' for dugout canoe are derived from this species (Ahlbrink, 1931).

Clusia palmicida Rich. ex Planch. & Triana **GUTTIFERAE**
Black kufa, Kupa, Small leaf kupa, Cooper (Cr), Kufa (Ar), Kuwapo-u (C), Dabahi (Wr).
Hemi-epiphyte. Aerial roots woody, cortex dark brown. Latex yellow. Flowers white, tinged with pink, staminodial ring yellow, sticky. Capsule ellipsoid, light green. Common, but patchily distributed in mixed forest, less frequent in swamp forest. Aerial roots are harvested for the commercial furniture industry, but they are more brittle than roots of white kufa (*Clusia grandiflora*). A hot chocolate-like brew from the root cortex is drunk with sugar, or mixed with several other ingredients (see *Davilla kunthii*) into aphrodisiac potions. The root is boiled with karia leaves (*Stigmaphyllon sinuatum*) against malaria. Roots are used to make traditional Carib tondoli baskets. The latex is applied as plaster on mosquito worms. Stepping on the sticky fruit is believed to cause ground itch. Children make toy guns from hollowed out roots. Pieces of roots with cortex are sold at the Georgetown herbal market.

Clusia pana-panari (Aubl.) Choisy **GUTTIFERAE**
Small leaf kupa (Cr), Kufa (Ar).
Scrambling shrub. Stilt roots with yellow latex. Leaves small, opposite, with white latex. Flowers white, calyx persistent, dark brown. Capsule ellipsoid, green to purple-black. Occasional in riverbank vegetation. The bark is occasionally boiled and drunk against back pain.

Tovomita cf. **brevistaminea** Engl. **GUTTIFERAE**
Wild mango (Cr), Awasokule (Ar), Arakapuri paindyarï, Paipaiyo wokuru[1] (C).
Small tree with stilt roots. Bark foul-smelled, wood reddish. Leaves clustered at branch ends. Flowers green, sweet-scented. Capsule crowned by 4-lobed stigma. Common in mixed forest, Barama. The reddish pink fruit pulp was mentioned as edible, although a bit sour. Straight trunks are used as house posts and forest camp frames, otherwise as firewood. Skinned twigs are used to beat dirt from recently harvested, unspun cotton.
(1) 'Drink of the screaming piha', since this bird feeds on the fruit.

Tovomita calodictyos Sandw. **GUTTIFERAE**
Wild mango (Cr), Awasokule (Ar), Arakapuri (C).
Small tree with stilt roots. Latex yellow. Inner bark turning orange when exposed, wood pinkish red. Capsule large, 4-valved. Rare in mixed forest, Moruca. The trunk base with roots is used for coffee table frames. Stilt roots are used to make warishi frames and serve as firewood.

Tovomita choisyana Planch. & Triana **GUTTIFERAE**
Hill wild mangro (Cr), Awasokule (Ar), Arakapuri paindyarï (C).
Small tree with stilt roots. Latex yellow. Inner bark reddish, wood hard. Capsule green, ca. 4 cm long, 5-valved. Seeds 5, orange, embedded in red pulp. Occasional in mixed forest. Large trunks are used for housing, smaller ones for firewood. The stilt roots are carved into arrow sockets.

Tovomita obscura Sandw. **GUTTIFERAE**

Hill wild mango (Cr), Awasokule (Ar), Arakapuri paindyarï (C).

Small tree with stilt roots. Outer bark dark, inner bark red, strong-scented, wood brown, hard. Leaves clustered at branch ends, with little yellow latex. Occasional in secondary forest. The latex is said to cause a serious skin rash. The trunk base with the roots is used for coffee table frames. Stilt roots are used as warishi frames, bows and arrow sockets. The wood is also used as firewood.

Tovomita cf. **schomburgkii** Planch. & Triana **GUTTIFERAE**

Hill wild mango (Cr), Awasokule (Ar), Arakapuri (C).

Small tree with stilt roots. Outer bark green, horizontally ringed, inner bark red, with yellow latex. Flowers white, stamens long. Capsule round, crowned by styles. In mixed forest, rare in manicole swamps. Straight trunks are used for housing and boards, otherwise as firewood. The stilt roots serve as whips or bows.

Vismia guianensis (Aubl.) Choisy **GUTTIFERAE**

Small leaf bloodwood (Cr), Orali, Warohaya (Ar), Syirimeni (C), Dau hotu[1], Uraribari (Wr).

Small tree. Latex orange red. Leaves small, opposite, golden-brown, folded together when young. Inflorescences rusty puberulous. Berries green. Abundant in secondary forest. Trunks are favoured for house frames (runners, beams). The bark is boiled for half an hour and used to cleanse sores, eczema, ringworm, or itching skin. The latex is rubbed on warts and skin fungi (lota, ground itch, ringworm), but is less effective than that of the broad leaf bloodwood (*V. macrophylla*). Young girls paint their lips and nails orange with the latex. Fresh leaves are thrown with trysil leaves (*Pentaclethra macroloba*) in chicken pens to repel nimbles (poultry lice).

(1) 'Blood tree', after the orange-red latex.

Vismia laxiflora Reichardt **GUTTIFERAE**

Small leaf bloodwood (Cr), Sirimyari (C).

Medium-sized tree. Latex orange. Leaves small, opposite, golden-brown, folded together when young. Berries green, calyx persistent. Rare in riverbank Mora forest, Barama. The trunks are used for runners and beams.

Vismia macrophylla Kunth **GUTTIFERAE**

Broad leaf bloodwood (Cr), Orali, Warohaya (Ar), Saipyarara (C), Dau aidemu hotu[1] (Wr).

Medium-sized tree. Bark red, flaky, with much orange latex. Leaves large. Inflorescence rusty puberulous. Berry green, crowned by long styles. Abundant in secondary forest, frequent along riverbanks. The latex is rubbed on skin fungi (lota, ground itch, ringworm). A bark decoction is used to bathe these skin fungi. The sap squeezed from the heated young leaves is drunk for diarrhoea. Girls paint their lips and nails with the latex.

(1) The Warao name means 'large blood tree'.

Xiphidium caeruleum Aubl. **HAEMODORACEAE**

Wild lily, Monkey pine (Cr), Hebesere bina[1], Waiuriballi (Ar), Karuwara epïtyï[3], Sararan, Sayu yumï[3] (C).

Herb to 2 m high. Rhizome creeping. Leaves green with brown spots. Flowers white, in terminal, many-flowered inflorescence. Berry black. In cultivated and abandoned fields. The grated rhizome is applied to cuts, sores, and foot fungus. The plant is also used to treat the painful sting of the karuwara caterpillar.

(1) 'Foot fungus bina' (Fanshawe, 1949); (2) 'Karuwara cure'; (3) This Carib name means 'razorgrass father'.

Humiria balsamifera (Aubl.) A. St.-Hil. var. **balsamifera** **HUMIRIACEAE**

Tawanero, Tauroniro (Cr), Tauarãru (Ar), Meri (C).

Tree to 25 m tall. Bark rough, brown, vertically grooved. Twigs flat. Leaves rounded at apex, coiled inwards when young. Flowers white, showy. Drupe ovoid, blue-black. In quackal swamp forest. The hard wood is a commercial timber, locally valued for boards, furniture, housing, and high quality charcoal. The bark is stuffed in the roof to drive out insects destroying the thatch.

Humiriastrum obovatum (Benth.) Cuatrec. **HUMIRIACEAE**
Rat shit tree, Redwood (Cr), Hurihi, Kurihi, Kurihi itcheka[1] (Ar).
Tree to 40 m tall. Outer bark brown, lenticellate, inner bark orange. Leaves obovate, red-brown puberulous below when young, margins recurved. Drupe fleshy. Common in quackal swamp forest, Moruca. The acid fruits are eaten or pounded in hot water into a beverage. The hard wood is sawn into boards.
(1) 'Rat shit', after the fusiform black seeds.

Sacoglottis aff. **cydonioides** Cuatrec. **HUMIRIACEAE**
Broad leaf counter, Redwood (Cr), Dukuria (Ar).
Tree to 15 m tall. Outer bark reddish brown, rough, inner bark red, wood yellow, sweet-scented. In mixed forest, Moruca. The bark is boiled into a astringent tea for diarrhoea.

Poraqueiba sp. TVA754 **ICACINACEAE**
Baradanni (Cr), Pukuta (C).
Large tree. Outer bark light brown, lenticellate, inner bark orange-yellow, sweet-scented, with transparent orange exudate. Leaves large. Saplings with horizontal branches. Rare in Mora forest, Barama. The wood is used for canoes, boards, and house construction.

Poraqueiba aff. **guianensis** Aubl. **ICACINACEAE**
Lonely wood, Lonely tree[1] (Cr), Solito (Sp), Marishiballi hariraru (Ar), Warurang (C).
Very large tree, with large buttresses. Outer bark brown, vertically fissured, inner bark dark pink, oxidising to dark orange when exposed, wood white. Rare in mixed forest, Moruca. The bark stripped from the buttresses is used in herbal baths against itching skin. Four strips of 100 x 20 cm are used for one bath. People often develop skin rashes when felling trees or lianas with acrid latex. The red bark decoction is said to be more alleviating than the cream provided by the hospital.
(1) The name refers to the rarity of this species.

Eleutherine bulbosa (P. Mill.) Urb. **IRIDACEAE**
Come back bush (Cr), Warakaba bina (Ar), Soasoa[1] (C), Murusi, Muharoko (W).
Perennial herb to 60 cm high. Bulb layered, purplish red. Leaves linear, finely plicate. Flowers white, in branched, bracteate inflorescences. Capsule green. In pastures, frequently grown in house yards. The plant is believed to be one of the most powerful binas. When going to court or the police station, the suspect secretly carries a leaf or bulb with him. Even if he is guilty, the authorities will be on his side. Fish hooks, rods, and lines are rubbed with the leaves to be certain of a good catch. The grated bulb is used in a herbal bath or mixed with oil or perfume and rubbed on the body from head to toe. The sweet smell wins the love of a desired person, brings back an unfaithful lover or a missing person, or keeps a beloved one by your side forever. The red gratings are used as lipstick, or secretly rubbed in the hair of an admired person. The bulb is wrapped in some leaves and hidden in the house to bring financial luck. Women drink the tea from the bulbs to stop haemorrhage and overcome infertility. If a menstruating woman urinates over the plant, it will loose its power forever. Rubbing the body with lime is one of the few remedies to get rid of a bina spell. Bina mixtures are occasionally sold, but always in strict secrecy.
(1) According to the Caribs, the wood creeping soa soa bird (*Dendrocolaptes* sp.) is thought to be a lonely bird, always calling for his partner. The bird itself is used in similar magic practises as the plant.

Hyptis pectinata (L.) Poit. **LABIATAE**
Cold bush, Woman piaba (Cr).
Herb to 2 m high. Stem ribbed. Leaves ovate, grey-green below, aromatic. Flowers small, purple, in long, terminal, spike-like thyrse. Along roadsides and disturbed areas, often planted in house yards. A decoction of the whole plant is used as a steam or sweat bath by women suffering from 'lining cold' (puerperal fever). The tea is drunk for stomachache. Sold at the Georgetown herbal market.

Leonotis nepetifolia (L.) R. Br. **LABIATAE**
Man piaba, Lion bush (Cr), Kororewa, Kamityami epïtyï (C).
Herb to 3 m high. Stems grey-green, ribbed, square. Leaves deeply crenate, strong-scented. Flowers orange, in dense, spiny, axillary verticillasters. Weed of waste places, also planted in house yards. Fresh leaves are thrown in chicken pens to repel nimbles. A tea from the leaves is taken for stomachache and intestinal worms. Sold at the Georgetown market.

Lacistema aggregatum (Bergius) Rusby **LACISTEMACEAE**
Wild coffee (white type), Rod stick (Cr).
Small tree. Outer bark green, inner bark light brown, wood yellow. Flowers yellowish green, in axillary, catkin-like spikes. Capsule fleshy, red. In secondary forest, Moruca. The wood is sometimes used for house posts and firewood. Young trunks serve as fishing rods.

Aniba cf. **guianensis** Aubl. **LAURACEAE**
Ginger gale silverballi (Cr), Kereti (Ar).
Tree to 25 m tall. Inner bark yellow, ginger-scented. Leaves leathery, greyish below, base cuneate. Flowers small. Berry enclosed by warty cupule. In secondary forest, Moruca. The wood is said to be poisonous and remain free from insect attacks. It is used for boards and canoes and is favoured by Pomeroon boat builders for ballahoos.

Aniba hostmanniana (Nees) Mez **LAURACEAE**
Big leaf silverballi (Cr), Kanoaballi (Ar), Waikiarra, Sipiropipo, Apotono arï siduwaparï (C).
Tree to 20 m tall. Bark and wood light brown. Leaves clustered at branch end, greyish below. Inflorescence rusty tomentose. Fruiting cupule dentate. In secondary forest, Barama. The wood is favoured for boards and canoes.

Aniba jenmanii Mez **LAURACEAE**
Swamp kereti, Kereti silverballi (Cr), Kereti (Ar).
Small tree. Outer bark flaky, inner bark orange, wood white. Young branches grooved. Leaves clustered at branch ends. Inflorescence few-flowered. Berry chestnut brown. In quackal swamp forest. The sweet-scented wood is used for boards and canoes.

Aniba cf. **kappleri** Mez **LAURACEAE**
Silverballi (Cr), Siduwaparï (C).
Tree to 25 m tall. Outer bark black, inner bark and wood bright yellow. Twigs reddish. Inflorescence rusty puberulous. Fruiting cupule rusty, warty. In mixed forest, Barama. The hard, sweet-scented wood is favoured for boards and canoes.

Aniba cf. **riparia** (Nees) Mez **LAURACEAE**
Brown silverballi, Sauari skin silverballi, Yellow kereti (Cr), Kereti (Ar), Siduwaparï (C).
Tree to 18 m tall. Inner bark and wood yellow. Leaves glabrous, strong-scented. Inflorescence grey- or rusty puberulous. Berry yellow to orange. In mixed and secondary forest. The wood is favoured for boards, furniture, and canoes.

Aniba cf. **terminalis** Ducke **LAURACEAE**
Silverballi (Cr), Siduwaparï (C).
Medium-sized tree. Young leaves light brown, silvery, sweet-scented. Panicles terminal. Berry enclosed by warty cupule. Rare in Mora forest. The wood is favoured for boards and canoes.

Aniba sp. TVA988 **LAURACEAE**
Brown silverballi (Cr), Siduwaparï (C).
Tree to 10 m tall. Outer bark dark brown, inner bark light brown, wood yellowish. Leaves small, slightly aromatic. The wood is favoured for boards, floors, and canoes.

Nectandra cf. **cuspidata** Nees **LAURACEAE**
Kereti, Shirua (Ar), Tokuhsa (C).
Tree to 30 m tall. Outer bark patchy grey, inner bark and wood yellow, unpleasantly scented. Leaves slightly aromatic. Flowers small, white. Berry small. In secondary forest. In Barama, the wood was only used as firewood, because the saw dust was said to cause skin rash. In Moruca, the wood was valued for boards and canoes.

Ocotea cernua (Nees) Mez **LAURACEAE**
Fine leaf kereti (Cr), Kereti, Yekoro (Ar), Wayaka (C).
Small tree. Leaves with unpleasant smell. Flowers very small, yellow, in axillary panicles. Cupule bright red, leathery. Berry green to black. In mixed, secondary, and Mora forest. The wood is favoured for boards, furniture, coffins, and canoes.

Ocotea schomburgkiana (Nees) Mez **LAURACEAE**
Brown silverballi, Swizzle stick kereti, White / Brown kereti (Cr), Kereti, Yekoro (Ar), Tokuhsa, Yapui (C).
Tree to 25 m tall. Outer bark dark brown, rough, inner bark brown, wood soft, white. Branches in whorls. Panicles pyramidal. Berry small. In manicole swamps, mixed and secondary forest. The sweet-scented wood is used for house frames, boards, coffins, gun stalks, canoes, and firewood. The sawdust irritates the skin. The whorled branches are trimmed into swizzles to beat chocolate milk or porridge.

Ocotea splendens (Meisn.) Mez **LAURACEAE**
Buck vomit (Cr), Kereti, Yekoro (Ar), Waye, Wa-e (C).
Tree to 15 m tall. Outer bark whitish grey, inner bark brown, wood whitish yellow. Leaves broad, glabrous, clustered at branch ends. Panicles yellow-puberulous. In secondary forest and manicole swamp. The wood is favoured for boards, walls, furniture, coffins, canoes, and firewood.

Ocotea tomentella Sandw. **LAURACEAE**
Broad leaf silverballi Baradanni (Cr), Kereti, Baradan[1] (Ar), Mïrakurang[2] (C).
Tree to 30 m tall. Outer bark light brown, inner bark orange, wood light brown. Leaves clustered at branch ends, greyish brown puberulous. Petiole winged. Berry small, green. In mixed and secondary forest. The wood is a commercial timber, locally used for boards, canoes, coffins, floors, and furniture.
(1) 'Ocean tree', after the light, seaworthy canoes made from it (Fanshawe, 1949); (2) 'Wild avocado pear'.

Eschweilera alata A.C.Smith **LECYTHIDACEAE**
Wild guava, Guava skin kakaralli (Cr), Kakaralli (Ar), Ara-a (C).
Tree to 25 m tall. Outer bark flaky, in a jigsaw pattern, inner bark pink. Petals pale yellow, staminodial hood yellow. Fruit obconical, small. Rare in mixed forest. The wood is a commercial timber, used locally for long-lasting house posts.

Eschweilera decolorans Sandw. **LECYTHIDACEAE**
Brown kakaralli (Cr), Kakaralli (Ar), Urana ereparï[1](C), Kakarari (Wr).
Large tree. Bark brown, inner bark and wood yellowish white. Flowers large, sweet-scented, petals white, turning blue when touched, staminodial hood yellow. Common in mixed forest. The fibrous, sweet-scented bark strips are used for head straps and lashing material. The wood is a commercial timber, used locally for house posts and boards.
(1) 'Labba food', as this rodents feeds on the fruits.

Eschweilera sagotiana Miers **LECYTHIDACEAE**
Broad leaf black kakaralli (Cr), Kakaralli (Ar), Urana ereparï (C), Kakarari (Wr).
Tree to 30 m tall. Outer bark brown, inner bark yellow. Leaves large, leathery. Flowers small, petals white, staminodial hood dark yellow. Fruits woody. Common in mixed forest. The sweet-scented bark is used for head straps and lashing material. The wood is a commercial timber, locally used for house posts, beams, runners, poles, and boards. The seeds are used as bait in bird traps.

Eschweilera wachenheimii (Benoist) Sandw. **LECYTHIDACEAE**
White kakaralli, Fine leaf black kakaralli (Cr), Kakaralli (Ar), Kuwatïri (C), Kakarari (Wr).
Tree to 25 m tall. Leaves glabrous, long-acuminate. Petioles black. Petals white, staminodial hood yellow, sweet-scented. Fruit obconical, woody. Seeds 1-2. Abundant in mixed forest. The sweet-scented bark is used for head straps and lashing material. The wood is locally used for house frames, boards, and canoes.

Eschweilera sp. TVA2144 **LECYTHIDACEAE**
Broad leaf monkey pot (Cr).
Tree, ca. 15 m tall. Inner bark and wood yellow. Midrib prominent above. In secondary forest, Moruca. The wood is used to build traditional Arawak kitchen walls in the 'wattle and stave' style.

Lecythis cf. **chartacea** Berg **LECYTHIDACEAE**
Broad leaf monkey pot, Smooth skin/fine leaf/black/white kakaralli (Cr), Hiaru kakaralli, Kakaralli (Ar), Kakarari (Wr).
Tree to 35 m tall. Outer bark purplish brown, inner bark and wood white. Leaves elliptic, slightly serrate when young. Flowers white. Fruits turbinate. In secondary and mixed forest, Moruca. The hard wood is used for house frames, poles, posts, axe handles, heavy-duty bridges, and boards. The bark yields an inferior lashing material.

Bauhinia scala-simiae Sandw. **LEGUMINOSAE-CAESALP.**
Monkey ladder, Turtle step (Cr), Hikuri tarafon (Ar), Wayamu patï (C), Tida aidamu araimuhu (Wr).
Liana. Stem undulate, deeply divided. Leaves entire, palmately veined. Petioles long. Branches soft brown puberulous. Pod clavate, reddish brown tomentose. In Mora and mixed forest. The root is pounded until fibrous, its sap squeezed in a cup and diluted in warm water. A quarter cup is drunk for diarrhoea. A tea from the wood is drunk for malaria, diarrhoea, to bitter the blood, and to stop haemorrhage.

Chamaechrista ramosa (Vogel) H.S. Irwin & Barneby **LEGUMINOSAE-CAESALP.**
Wiry shrub to 1 m tall. Leaves pinnate, leaflets 4. Flowers yellow, turning orange with age. Pod small, flat, black. Taken from the wild (probably from the white sand savannas in Berbice), and planted as ornamental in house yards on white sand (Assakata).

Dicorynia cf. **guianensis** Amshoff **LEGUMINOSAE-CAESALP.**
Sand mora (Cr).
Tree to 40 m tall. Outer bark flaky, inner bark brown, wood yellow, foul-smelling. Panicles rusty puberulous. Pod ovate, flat. Seeds 1-2. Rare in secondary forest, Moruca. The wood is said to be poisonous and used to kill fish. Throwing wood chips in a creek would instantly kill the fish. The guts, scales, and skin of the fish should quickly be removed, and the flesh carefully cleaned with lime to avoid digesting the poison. The wood is considered too poisonous for house construction or firewood. Informants possibly confused this species with *Talisia* spp.

Eperua falcata Aubl. **LEGUMINOSAE-CAESALP.**
Soft wallaba (Cr), Wallaba (Ar), Watapa, Parewe (C), Waraba (Wr).
Tree to 30 m tall. Leaves 6-8-foliolate. Flowers pink, in terminal, pendent racemes to 2 m long. Pod flat, woody, reddish brown, falcate. Occasional in mixed forest, common in manicole swamp. The wood is a commercial timber, locally used for house posts, boards, canoes, poles, kitchen staves, and shingles. Wallaba posts harvested from coastal swamps are sold in regional towns. The market for shingles has dwindled lately.

Eperua rubiginosa Miq. var. **rubiginosa** **LEGUMINOSAE-CAESALP.**
Wallaba (Ar), Warapa (C).
Tree to 30 m tall. Leaves 8-foliolate. Leaflets long-acuminate. Racemes terminal, pendent, to 2.5 m long. Pod flat, woody, brown, falcate. Rare in Mora forest, Barama. The wood is a commercial timber, locally used for house posts, poles, and shingles.

Macrolobium acaciifolium Benth. **LEGUMINOSAE-CAESALP.**
Arapito, Sarabebe (Ar), Arapari, Aratapali (C).
Tree to 10 m, with broad buttresses. Leaves bipinnate, yellowish puberulous below. Flowers white. Pod orbicular, flat, woody. Seed 1. In flooded savanna, Moruca. The seeds are edible, but people warned that eating too much of them will rotten the teeth or cause lice infestation. Herbal baths with the leaves are believed to keep a person forever young, since this tree always gets fresh, young leaves after shedding its old ones.

Macrolobium angustifolium (Benth.) Cowan **LEGUMINOSAE-CAESALP.**
Waterwallaba, Waterwallaba-balli (Cr), Sararabebe (Ar), Aratapa (C).
Tree to 30 m tall. Leaves 2-foliate. Flowers white, with red filaments, in axillary, tomentose racemes. Pod red-brown ellipsoid, flat, glabrous, heavy. Common in swamp forest on pegasse. The wood is used for boards and cricket bats.

Peltogyne venosa (Vahl) Benth. subsp. **venosa** **LEGUMINOSAE-CAESALP.**
Purpleheart (Cr), Saka (Ar), Wewe pipyo[1] (C), Moraijana (Wr).
Tree to 45 m tall. Crown broad. Outer bark black, inner bark light brown, heartwood purple. Flowers pink, in terminal, rusty puberulous panicles. Pod leathery, stipitate. Occasional in mixed forest. The wood is a commercial timber, locally used for boards, house posts, uprights, canoes, coffee mortars, bridges, walking sticks, and other crafts. In the past, wood skin canoes were made by felling a trunk, beating the bark, and removing it as a whole, and keeping the bark slab open with yariyari sticks (*Duguetia* spp.). Wood skins move fast, but are hard to steer and have a short life span. They were made when people reached a distant river after travelling by land and no boat was available to travel further. Canoes made during moonlight are believed to spoil rapidly. Wood skins are hardly used anymore, since few people are left that still know the technique.
(1) The Carib name means 'wood skin'.

Sclerolobium micropetalum Ducke **LEGUMINOSAE-CAESALP.**
Ants tree (hill type) (Cr), Kaditiri, Yawaredan (Ar), Tyasi epï[1], Topuwonu (C).
Tree to 30 m tall. Leaves large, paripinnate. Stipules pinnate, threadlike. Leaves and stipules densely rusty puberulous. Panicles to 35 cm long. Pod thin, flat. Occasional in mixed forest. The painfully stinging ants that inhabit this tree are put on a dog's nose to make him hunt better.
(1) 'Tyasi ant tree' (hill type). The 'riverside' tyasi ant tree is *Triplaris weigeltiana*.

Senna multijuga (Rich) H.S. Irwin & Barneby var. **multijuga** **LEGUMINOSAE-CAESALP.**
Marimari, Riariadan[1] (Ar), Marimyari (C).
Medium-sized tree. Leaves paripinnate, many-foliolate. Flowers yellow, in large, many-flowered panicles. Pod flat, brown. Common in secondary shrubland and gaps in mixed forest, spared from weeding or planted in house yards as ornamental. Flowers are used in wedding bouquets. The leaflets are thrown as confetti over married couples.
(1) The Arawak name means 'sun bee tree' (Fanshawe, 1949).

Senna occidentalis (L.) Link **LEGUMINOSAE-CAESALP.**
Wild coffee, Bruka, Brucha (Cr), Arapo (C), Kobi[1] (Wr).
Perennial, shrubby herb. Leaves 8-foliolate, foul-smelling. Flowers yellow, in few-flowered racemes. Pod long, flat, brown. Weed in waste places along the coast, cultivated in the interior. Seeds are parched, ground, and drunk as coffee substitute and as a remedy for kidney problems, intestinal infections, worms, haemorrhage, female infertility, and to clean out the uterus. Leaves are macerated and applied to the head for headache. A tea from the leaves is taken for lining cold and haemorrhage, and is given in small quantities to babies with thrush. The decoction is used as a sweat bath for colds. The sap from the pounded roots is drunk for diarrhoea. In Georgetown, wild coffee is boiled with a

congo pump leaf (*Cecropia* spp.) and bishop's cap (*Cardiospermum halicacabum*) for kidney disorders. Sold at the Georgetown market.
(1) The Warao name means 'coffee' (Charette, 1980).

Senna reticulata (Willd.) H.S. Irwin & Barneby **LEGUMINOSAE-CAESALP.**
John crow bush, Carrion crow bush (Cr), Anatapari (C), Bure arau (Wr).
Arborescent shrub to 8 m tall. Leaves paripinnate, foul-smelling, rachis flat. Flowers yellow, in stout inflorescences capped with a cone of petaloid bracts. In secondary shrubland. The leaves are used in sweat baths for fever. The tea from leaves and/or flowers and pod is drunk as laxative. A mouthful of the tea is drunk for pneumonia.

Tachigali paniculata Aubl. **LEGUMINOSAE-CAESALP.**
Ants wood (Cr), Yawaredan[1] (Ar).
Small tree with low buttresses. Rachis triangular, inhabited by stinging ants. Flowers cream, in terminal, many-flowered racemes. Pod long, flat, leathery. Rare in mixed forest, Moruca. The wood is used for boards and house construction.
(1) 'Opossum tree', from the ugly smell of the ants living in the petioles (Fanshawe, 1949).

Abarema jupunba (Willd.) Britton & Killip **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
var. **trapezifolia** (Vahl) Barneby & Grimes
Soapwood (Cr), Huruasa (Ar), Waisyore turupo[1] (C), Dau bana[2] (Wr).
Tree to 35 m tall. Leaves bipinnate, pinnae asymmetrical. Flowers white, with long stamens, in terminal, clustered heads. Pod dehiscent, twisted, red inside. Common in secondary forest. The wood is a commercial timber, locally used for boards and canoes. The inner bark contains saponins and becomes foamy when beaten in water. Until recently (during the Burnham period), the bark and flowers were used as soap substitute.
(1) 'Sloth heart'; (2) 'Froth wood', after the soapy bark.

Hydrochorea cf. **corymbosa** (A. Rich.) Barneby & Grimes **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
Christmas tree, Soapwood (Cr), Ka'ra (C).
Tree to 45 m tall. Crown broad. Leaves bipinnate, rachis rusty tomentose. Flowers white, in subfasciculate heads. Pod flat, dehiscent. Rare in mixed forest. Saplings are planted in pots and sold as Christmas tree. Trimmed saplings are used to hang cups. The wood is occasionally used for canoes and firewood.

Inga cf. **acreana** Harms **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
Bender whitey (Cr), Warakosa[1] (Ar), Doho[2] (Wr).
Medium-sized tree. Outer bark lenticellate. Leaves paripinnate, rachis narrowly winged. Flowers white, in congested, puberulous spikes. Pod flat with raised margins. Common in secondary forest, Moruca. The white pulp around the seeds is eaten.
(1) The general Arawak name for *Inga* species (Fanshawe, 1949); (2) The general Warao name for *Inga* species (Charette, 1980).

Inga cf. **acrocephala** Steud. **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
Whitey (Cr), Warakosa (Ar), Doho (Wr).
Tree to 25 m tall. Leaves 4-jugate, rachis not winged. Flowers white, in axillary or terminal, paniculate spikes. Pod curved, woody, green, ribbed. In secondary and mixed forest, Moruca. The fruit pulp is eaten.

Inga capitata Desv. **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
Fine leaf whitey, Round leaf whitey (Cr), Hikoritoro, Warakosa (Ar).
Tree to 20 m tall. Leaves 2-4-jugate. Rachis not winged. Spikes 1-3, in leaf axils. Flowers white. Pod glabrous, smooth, sessile, rounded. In swamps and well-drained forest. The white fruit pulp is eaten, but only as emergency food, because it is less sweet than other *Inga* species.

Inga graciliflora Benth. **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
Button whitey, Whitey, Centipede whitey (Cr), Tureli, Waremesuri (Ar), Sarara[1] (C), Doho (Wr).
Medium-sized tree. Leaves 3-jugate, rachis slightly winged. Flowers white, in axillary umbels. Pods in bundles, green, ca. 25 cm long, swollen at seeds. In secondary and mixed forest. The white pulp around the seeds is eaten. The wood is used as firewood.
(1) 'Centipede', after the shape of the pod.

Inga huberi Ducke **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
Black whitey, Broad leaf whitey (Cr), Warakosa (Ar), Doho (Wr).
Tree to 20 m, with irregular buttresses. Leaves 2-jugate, rachis not winged. Flowers white, in clusters of 3 axillary umbels. Pod ca. 20 x 4 cm, thick. In secondary and mixed forest. The white pulp around the seeds is eaten. The wood is used as firewood and occasionally for canoes.

Inga cf. **java** Pittier **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
Brown whitey (Cr), Warakosa (Ar), Doho (Wr).
Small tree. Leaves puberulous, rachis slightly winged. Flowers white, in congested spikes in the axils of undeveloped leaves. Pod long, flat, broad. In manicole swamp, Assakata. The pulp around the seeds is eaten.

Inga jenmanii Sandw. **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
Whitey (Cr), Warakosa (Ar), Waisyimiri (C), Doho (Wr).
Large tree. Leaves small, 6-foliolate, rachis slightly winged. Stipules long. Flowers white, in umbellate inflorescence. Pod green, ca. 9 cm long, smooth, thick. Occasional in riverbank Mora forest, Barama. The white fruit pulp is eaten.

Inga leiocalycina Benth. **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
Whitey (Cr), Warakosa (Ar), Apipjoroi (C), Doho (Wr).
Medium-sized tree. Twigs lenticellate. Leaves 2-jugate, golden puberulous when young, rachis not winged. Flowers white, in very short, axillary clustered spikes. Pod dark green, swollen around seeds, 20 cm long. Occasional in Mora riverbank forest, Barama. The white pulp around the seeds is eaten. The wood is used as firewood.

Inga marginata Willd. **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
Broad leaf whitey, Green whitey (Cr), Warakosa (Ar), Doho (Wr).
Tree to 15 m. Leaves 2-jugate, rachis winged. Flowers white, in axillary, 8 cm long spikes. Pod slightly curved, glabrous, constricted between the seeds. In quackal swamp forest. The white seed pulp is eaten.

Inga melinonis Sagot **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
Baboon whitey, Black monkey goggle[1] (Cr), Karoto (Ar), Ariki enakorori (C), Doho (Wr).
Medium-sized tree. Leaves 4-jugate, velutinous below, rachis slightly winged. Flowers capitate, white, produced from main branches. Pod long, curved. In secondary forest. The white fruit pulp is eaten. The wood is used for firewood.
(1) This Creole name is a translation of the Carib name.

Inga nobilis Willd. **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
Wild river whitey (Cr), Warakosa (Ar), Pasindyo (C), Doho (Wr).
Small tree. Leaves 3-4-jugate, rachis angular, not winged. Flowers white, stamens long, in terminal, clustered spikes. Pod yellow, curved, swollen over seeds. Abundant on riverbanks of the Barama and Barima Rivers. The fruit pulp is eaten, mainly by children paddling their way to school. The wood is used as firewood.

Inga pilosula (Rich.) J.F. Macbr. **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
House whitey (Cr), Warakosa (Ar), Murewa (C), Hanoko duroho[1] (Wr).
Small tree. Leaves 2-jugate, leathery, puberulous below, rachis broadly winged. Flowers yellow, in axillary spikes. Pod yellowish green, heavy, straight, flattened. In seasonally flooded forests, often cultivated in Amerindian house yards. The seed pulp is eaten. The wood is used as firewood.
(1) The Warao name means 'house whitey', implying its cultivated state.

Inga rubiginosa (Rich.) DC. **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
Baboon whitey (Cr) Ituri hi[1] (Ar), Apowonu (large kind), Poporu peta[2] (C), Doho (Wr).
Medium-sized tree. Young branches and leaves densely red-brown puberulous, rachis not winged. Flowers large, yellowish, in loosely clustered spikes. Pod densely reddish brown puberulous. In secondary and mixed forest, sometimes spared from cutting. The white pulp around the seeds is eaten. The wood is used as firewood.
(1) 'Baboon tail', after the red, hairy leaves and pods (Fanshawe, 1949); (2) 'Toad face', after the shape of the pod.

Inga sertulifera DC. subsp. **leptopus** (Benth.) T.D. Penn. **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
Turtle whitey, Whitey (Cr), Warakosa (Ar), Doho (Wr).
Small tree. Outer bark light brown, lenticellate. Leaves small, rachis slightly winged. Flowers white, in umbellate inflorescence. Pod short, fat, yellow. In riverbank forest, planted in Moruca house yards. The fruit pulp is eaten.

Inga splendens Willd. **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
Cowfoot whitey, Big river whitey (Cr), Rabaraba (Ar), Inya-u (C), Doho (Wr).
Medium-sized tree. Leaves 2-jugate, leathery, rachis narrowly winged near apex. Flowers white, in paniculate spikes. Pod large, green, heavy, ca. 20 cm long. In riverbank Mora forest, Barama. The white fruit pulp is eaten.

Inga thibaudiana DC. subsp. **thibaudiana** **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
Monkey whitey (Cr), Iturihi karoto ibibero, Warakosa (Ar), Apowonu (small one), Tanïmï, Sehpundï (C), Doho (Wr).
Medium-sized tree. Leaves 4-5-jugate, brown puberulous below, rachis not winged. Flowers white, in loose, axillary spikes. Pod flat, brown-puberulous, ca. 30 cm. Common in secondary forest, spared from weeding around house yards. The white pulp around the seeds is eaten. The wood is used as firewood.

Inga umbellifera (Vahl) Steud. ex DC. **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
Turtle whitey (Cr), Warakosa (Ar), Wayamu topuru[1] (C), Doho (Wr).
Small tree. Leaves 2-3-jugate, petiole and rachis broadly winged. Flowers white, star-like, in axillary umbels. Pod curved, green. Common in secondary forest. The fruit pulp is eaten; the wood is used as firewood.
(1) 'Turtle leg', after the curved, stout pod.

Inga sp. TVA2285 **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
Whitey (Cr).
Tree, 10 m tall. Outer bark warty, lenticellate, inner bark red, wood yellow. Leaves 6-jugate, rusty puberulous below, rachis not winged. Flowers and pods not seen. In quackal swamp forest, Moruca. The fruit pulp is eaten.

Inga sp. TVA2283 **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
Whitey (Cr).
Small tree. Leaves 3-jugate, somewhat rough, pulvinus with black hairs, rachis slightly winged. Flowers and pods not seen. In quackal swamp forest, Moruca. The fruit pulp is eaten.

Inga sp. TVA2463 **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
Fine leaf whitey (Cr).
Sapling, ca. 2m tall. Leaves 4-jugate, puberulous, rachis not winged. Flowers and pods not seen. In mixed forest, Moruca. The fruit pulp is eaten.

Macrosamanea pubiramea (Steud.) Barneby & Grimes **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
var. **pubiramea**
Fine leaf bender, Bender bush, Fine leaf trysil, Water trysil (Cr), Imirimia (Ar), Aramirurang (C).
Small tree. Leaves bipinnate, dark green. Flowers in erect, globose heads, calyx pinkish brown, corolla pink, stamens numerous, filaments white. Pod greenish brown puberulous. Abundant in swamp forest on pegasse. The inner bark is scraped off and rubbed with coconut oil or applied as poultice on sprained or broken limbs. The hard, flexible twigs are used for bows. Because the twigs continue to grow when they are damaged, the species is believed to heal fractures. Fruit trees are beaten with a bender twig to ensure a good crop the following year.

Zygia cataractae (Kunth) L. Rico **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
Broad leaf bender (Cr), Alikyu (Ar).
Small tree. Leaves glabrous, pinnae in 1 pair, each with 3 leaflets. Flowers pink, in heads produced from the main branches. Pod curved, ca. 20 cm long, yellowish green. In flooded savanna, Moruca. The inner bark is scraped, mixed with coconut oil and applied to sprained limbs. The flexible, strong twigs are used for bows.

Zygia latifolia (L.) Fawc. & Rendle **LEGUMINOSAE-MIMOS.**
var. **communis** Barneby & Grimes
Bender (Cr), Alikyu (Ar), Ayarani (C).
Medium-sized tree. Leaves opposite, pinnae in 1 pair, each with 3-5 leaflets Flowers pink and white, in heads produced from the main branches. Pod green, ca. 14 cm long. In Mora riverbank forest, Barama. The wood is used for forest camp frames and firewood. The bark is used in a bath for general body pain and sickly babies.

Andira surinamensis (Bondt) Splitg. ex Amshoff **LEGUMINOSAE-PAPIL.**
Stainy rope (Cr), Shiriballi, Koraro (Ar), Rere ereparï, Ereyuru (C), Arisoru (Wr).
Tree to 40 m tall. Little red exudate. Twigs, underside of leaves, and inflorescences rusty puberulous. Calyx brown, petals pale violet, standard with white central spot. In secondary forest and swamp forest on pegasse, Moruca. The red exudate is rubbed on mouth sores.

Crotalaria nitens Kunth **LEGUMINOSAE-PAPIL.**
Snake shakshak (Cr), Okoyu marakarï (C).
Herb to 1.20 m high. Leaves 1-foliolate, densely puberulous. Flowers yellow, in terminal racemes. Pod inflated, subcylindric, black. Seeds numerous, black. In secondary shrubland, Barama and Barima. Children put the seeds in toy maracas ('shakshaks'). Shaking the dry pods is believed to attract snakes.

Desmodium adscendens (Sw.) DC. **LEGUMINOSAE-PAPIL.**
Ironweed, Sweetheart (Cr), Tebeyu (Ar), Uhsenano epityï[1] (C).
Creeping herb. Leaves 3-foliolate, leaflets orbiculate. Flowers pinkish purple, in lax, terminal raceme. Pod with 1-4 segments, with sticky hairs. Common in pastures, Barama. The crushed leaves in water are used to wash the hair when it is falling out. Children write their names on their clothes with the sticky pods.
(1) The Carib name means 'hair cure'.

Desmodium barbatum (L.) Benth. & Oerst. **LEGUMINOSAE-PAPIL.**
Man ironweed, Man sweetheart (Cr), Pega pega (Sp), Tebeyu (Ar), Uhsenano epityï (C), Akuwana (Wr).
Creeping herb. Leaves 3-foliolate, leaflets round, puberulous. Flowers small, pink, in dense terminal raceme. Pod segmented, united in hairy spheres. Common in pastures. A tea from the whole herb is drunk for fever, heart problems, male impotence, stomach ache, body pain, to ease menstruation, and to prevent miscarriages. Boiled with man grass (*Eleusine indica*) and black potato vine (*Ipomoea batatas*), the tea is taken for haemorrhage. If a father fails to keep the couvade rules and does heavy work just after his child is born, the baby will get cramps. The child is bathed with a decoction of this herb to ease the pain. Warao women believe they will get bad luck when the pods stick to their dress. Caribs wash their hair with the macerated leaves to enhance its growth and prevent baldness. Sold at the Georgetown herbal market.

Desmodium incanum (Sw.) Desv. **LEGUMINOSAE-PAPIL.**
Woman sweetheart, Woman ironweed (Cr), Tebeyu (Ar), Kumbo somororï (C).
Creeping or erect herb 20 cm tall. Leaves 3-foliate, leaflets thick. Flowers purple, in lax, terminal raceme. Pod to 8-segmented. Common in pastures, Moruca. A tea from the whole plant (with roots) is taken to stop the bleeding of injuries and for haemorrhage. The plant is also boiled with man grass (*Eleusine indica*) and black potato vine (*Ipomoea batatas*) for haemorrhage.

Dioclea reflexa Hook. f. **LEGUMINOSAE-PAPIL.**
Johnnie crow eyeball (Cr), Okrai (Ar), Bure ahu[1] (Wr).
Woody climber. Petioles and stipules brown puberulous. Leaves 3-foliate. Flowers purple, with white centre, in axillary, erect panicles. Flower buds black. In secondary forest, Waini. Children play with the round, flat seeds that resemble large eyes. The seeds are occasionally used as beads.
(1) The Warao name means 'vulture eye'.

Diplotropis purpurea (Rich.) Amsh. **LEGUMINOSAE-PAPIL.**
Tatabu[1] (Ar), Konatopo, Woko isyare, Kunoto epï (C).
Tree to 40 m tall. Inner bark orange, turning green-brown after exposure. Leaves imparipinnate. Flowers pink, in terminal panicle. Pod flat, membranous. Occasional in mixed forest, Moruca. The hard wood is a commercial timber and considered the best wood to make canoes. Large tatabu canoes are locally sold for US$ 70.
(1) 'Tata' means 'hard' in Arawak (Fanshawe, 1949).

Dipteryx odorata (Aubl.) Willd. **LEGUMINOSAE-PAPIL.**
Tonka bean (Cr), Kumaru (Ar), Karapa bosi, Katulimia (C).
Tree to 30 m tall. Leaves paripinnate, rachis flattened. Flowers in terminal panicles, calyx rusty tomentose, petals whitish mauve. Drupe ovoid, mesocarp fibrous. Rare in mixed forest, Moruca. The seeds contain cumarin, used industrially to flavour tobacco and as vanilla substitute. In the past, tonka beans were commercially extracted in the North-West District. Nowadays, they are only locally used. The grated seeds are mixed with vaseline and rubbed on the skin or hair as perfume. The wood is so hard to cut down that trees are often spared from felling.

Hymenolobium flavum Kleinh. **LEGUMINOSAE-PAPIL.**
Fine leaf arisauro (Cr), Darina, Koraroballi (Ar), Rere ereparï, Ereyuru (C).
Tree to 50 m tall. Buttresses square, to 2 m high. Leaves 15-17-foliolate. Panicles terminal, rusty tomentose. Pod ca. 15 x 3 cm. Rare in mixed forest, Moruca. A decoction of the bark is used to cleanse bush yaws sores.

Lonchocarpus aff. **martynii** A.C. Sm. **LEGUMINOSAE-PAPIL.**
White haiari (Ar), Haiari (Ar), Tamuneng haiari (C), Asikona (Wr).
Large woody climber. Leaves imparipinnate, greyish green below, petiole swollen at base. Flowers numerous, purple. Pod flat. Rare in Mora and mixed forest, regularly taken from the wild and planted in house yards. The roots are used as fish poison. They are pounded and soaked in creeks, after which fish will come floating on the surface. The milky root sap is used externally on sores and skin cancer,

and drunk in small amounts to treat intestinal cancer and AIDS. The sap is diluted in a bucket of water and used as a bath for eczema, ground itch, and skin sores. Washing with soap should be avoided. Although prohibited by law, fish poison is still frequently used in the interior. Haiari roots are sold at the Mabaruma market for US$ 0.10/lbs. Some 25 lbs. is needed to poison an average creek.

Lonchocarpus negrensis Benth. **LEGUMINOSAE-PAPIL.**
Brown haiari (Cr), Arari (Wr).
Woody climber. Stem with red exudate. Leaves 9-foliolate, foul-smelling. Flowers yellowish white, in rusty puberulous racemes. Pod oblong. Common in secondary and mixed forest, Moruca and Waini. The roots were mentioned as fish poison by Warao only.

Lonchocarpus sp. TVA1247 **LEGUMINOSAE-PAPIL.**
Red haiari (Cr), Tapireng haiari (C).
Woody climber. Stem light brown, lenticellate, inner bark green, wood white. Leaves imparipinnate, greyish puberulous when young, long-acuminate. Rare in Mora forest, Barama. The root sap is used as fish poison.

Lonchocarpus spruceanus Benth. **LEGUMINOSAE-PAPIL.**
Fine kind of haiari (Cr), Arari mukumuku[1] (Wr).
Small tree. Leaves imparipinnate, leaflets small, leathery, with a slight poisonous scent. Roots thin, yellow. Observed once on an abandoned farm on white sand in Warapoka (Waini), probably cultivated by local Warao. The root sap is used as fish poison and applied to the head to relieve headache.
(1) The Warao name means 'small haiari'.

Machaerium cf. **floribundum** Benth. **LEGUMINOSAE-PAPIL.**
Bat nail, Baboon plimpla (Cr), Bohoribada[1] (Ar).
Large woody climber. Stem flaky, grey, with thick, red exudate. Leaves imparipinnate, with two sharp spines at the base. Pod glabrous, greenish yellow. In swamp and secondary forest. A 30 cm long piece of the stem is cut, the red sap collected in a spoon, diluted in water, and drunk for diarrhoea, dysentery, and haemorrhage. Cotton is soaked in the sap to wipe the sore mouths of babies with thrush. A tea from the wood is taken for diarrhoea.
(1) 'Bat claw', after the recurved spines (Fanshawe, 1949).

Machaerium quinata (Aubl.) Sandw. var. **quinata** **LEGUMINOSAE-PAPIL.**
Bohoribada (Ar), Kumetï (C).
Woody climber. Bark peels off easily, with red exudate. Leaves imparipinnate, brown tomentose below. Stipules large. Flowers yellow. Pod light brown puberulous. In brackish swamps and secondary forest. The red sap is used for drawing on paper.

Machaerium sp. TVA921 **LEGUMINOSAE-PAPIL.**
Granny backbone (Cr), Awarepuya andïkïrï[1], Kumetï (C).
Woody climber with flat stem. Outer bark brown, flaky, wood white, with alternating bands secreting thick, red latex. Leaves imparipinnate. In mixed forest, Barama. The stem is chopped into pieces, boiled, and the bitter tea is drunk against malaria. The red exudate is used to paint wooden utensils (e.g., cricket balls).
(1) 'Waterdog tail', after the flattened stem.

Mucuna cf. **urens** (L.) Medik. **LEGUMINOSAE-PAPIL.**
Carrion crow eyeball, John crow eye (Cr), Konome enuru, Kurumu enuru[1] (C).
Woody climber. Flowers pendent on long peduncles, petals fleshy, whitish pink, turning purplish black with age. Pod ribbed, with stinging brown hairs. Rare in Mora forest, Barama. The grated seed are rubbed on the skin to relieve itches. Children play a game galled 'jacks' with the seeds or use them to make a top.
(1) 'Eye of the vulture', after the shape of the seeds.

Ormosia coccinea (Aubl.) Jackson **LEGUMINOSAE-PAPIL.**
Lucky seed, Jumbie beans (Cr), Barakaro (Ar), Anakoko (big type) (C).
Large tree. Leaves 7-11-foliolate. Flowers dark purple, in rusty tomentose panicles. Pod dark red, leathery. Seeds hard, red and black. Occasional in mixed forest and manicole swamp. Children play with the seeds, which are sometimes used to teach them to count. Seeds are used as beads or carried in the pocket to bring luck. The wood is a commercial timber, locally used for boards. The pounded bark is used in a steam bath for fever.

Ormosia nobilis Tul. **LEGUMINOSAE-PAPIL.**
Lucky seed, Jumbie beans (Cr), Barakaro (Ar), Anakoko (smaller type) (C).
Small trees. Bark patchy brown and white. Leaves large, glabrous, 7-foliolate, greyish velutinous when young. Pod woody, brown. Seeds hard, red and black. Occasional in secondary forest, Barama. The bark is pounded and used in a steam bath for fever. Children collect the seeds to play with. Seeds are used as beads, but need to be boiled before they can be threaded on a string. In coastal Guyana, the seeds are used in tourist jewellery.

Rhynchosia phaseoloides (Sw.) DC. **LEGUMINOSAE-PAPIL.**
Lucky seed, Jumbie beans, Rat eye (Cr), Anakoko (smallest type), Mumbo enuru[1] (C).
Woody vine. Leaves 3-foliate. Stem, leaves, and inflorescence puberulous. Pod yellowish brown puberulous. Seeds small, hard, shiny, black and red. Growing as weed in cultivated fields. The seeds are used as toy or beads, but need to be boiled before they can be threaded. In coastal Guyana they are used in tourist jewellery.
(1) The Carib name means 'rat eye'.

Swartzia guianensis (Aubl.) Urb. **LEGUMINOSAE-PAPIL.**
Axeblunter, Marudi food (Cr), Itikiboroballi (Ar), Warama, Asemunusi, Marasi ereparï[1] (C).
Medium-sized tree. Leaves 5-foliolate, petiole, and rachis winged. Flowers showy, cream, in pendent panicles on older twigs. Pod orange. Seeds black. Aril white. Frequent in riverbank Mora forest, Barama. The hard wood is occasionally used for house posts and firewood.
(1) 'Marudi food', as the seeds are eaten by this bird.

Swartzia schomburgkii Benth. var. **schomburgkii** **LEGUMINOSAE-PAPIL.**
Saltfish wood, Paddlewood (Cr), Parakasana, Parekosan (Ar), Asemunusi[1], Marasi ereparï (C).
Tree to 30 m tall. Bark with little red sap. Trunk deeply and broadly fluted. Leaves 7-9-foliolate, greyish green below. Flowers white, in lateral racemes. Pod elongate, glabrous, stipitate. Rare in high forest on Blue Mountain, Kokerite, Barama. Paddles and axe handles are carved from the fluted stem.
(1) 'Double seed', after the two flattened seeds.

Vatairea guianensis Aubl. **LEGUMINOSAE-PAPIL.**
Sapotero (Cr), Zapatero (Sp), Arisauro (Ar).
Tree to 30 m tall. Bark with little red sap. Leaves 9-13-foliolate, greyish below. Flowers dark purple, in brown-velutinous racemes. Pod flat, orbicular, heavy, ca. 9 x 5 cm. Common in swamp forest on pegasse. The poisonous seed is grated, mixed with (coconut) oil, and rubbed on scabies, sores, ringworm, and eczema. The yellow inner bark is rubbed on the skin for the same ailments. Canoes are occasionally made from the wood.

Strychnos erichsonii M.R. Schomb. ex Progel **LOGANIACEAE**
Big devildoer (Cr), Kwabanaro (Ar), Aritya wokuru (C).
Woody climber. Leaves opposite, leathery. Tendrils woody, curled. Flowers in axillary cymes. Berry globose, orange, ca. 3 cm in diam. Occasional in riverbank Mora forest, Barama. The fruit pulp is edible and sweet. A tea from the bark and/or wood is believed to act like an aphrodisiac (see *S. mitscherlichii*).

Strychnos sp. TVA747 **LOGANIACEAE**
Small devildoer (Cr), Aritya wokuru (C).
Woody climber. Berry round, yellow, ca. 1.5 cm in diam. Occasional in mixed forest, Barama. The acid, yellowish grey fruit pulp is edible.

Lomariopsis japurensis (Mart.) J. Sm. **LOMARIOPSIDAE**
Baboon tail (Cr), Ituri hi (Ar), Arawata andïkïrï (C), Wai ahu (Wr).
Epiphytic fern. Rhizome creeping, appressed against tree trunks, covered with long brown scales. Fronds pinnate, ca. 20 cm long, rachis with brown scales. In Mora forest, Barama. The scales are removed, the white rhizome tissue is grated, and applied as poultice on swellings or abscesses.

Phoradendron perrottetii (DC.) Eichler **LORANTHACEAE**
Bird vine (large type) (Cr), Domoaso (Wr).
Parasitic shrub. Suckers firmly attached to the branch of its host tree. Leaves leathery, yellow, asymmetric. Berry white, small. Common in secondary forest and orchards, Moruca. Pounded leaves are put as a poultice on sprained limbs. Leaves are boiled with monkey ladder (*Bauhinia* spp.) and some unknown other lianas into a remedy for venereal diseases. The bitter tea from the leaves is drunk against malaria and given in small doses to babies with thrush.

Phthirusa pyrifolia (Kunth) Eichler **LORANTHACEAE**
Bird vine (small type) (Cr), Domoaso (Wr).
Parasitic herb. Suckers firmly attached to the branch of its host tree. Flowers very small, red. Berry small. Common in secondary forest and orchards, Moruca. Pounded leaves are put as poultice on sprained limbs. A tea from the leaves is drunk to bitter the blood against malaria, and given in small doses to babies with thrush.

Byrsonima aerugo Sagot **MALPIGHIACEAE**
White hicha, Red hicha (Ar), Arikadako (Ar), Perulu (C), Hitia (Wr).
Medium-sized tree. Young leaves densely reddish brown tomentose. Flowers yellow, in terminal, many-flowered racemes. Drupe yellow. Seed 1. Common in secondary forest, Moruca. The fruits are edible. The wood is considered very good firewood.

Byrsonima spicata (Cav.) DC. **MALPIGHIACEAE**
Fine leaf black hicha, Eta eta (Cr), Hicha (Ar), Hitia (Wr).
Small tree. Leaves narrowly elliptic, puberulous below. Flowers yellow, in terminal, many-flowered racemes. Drupe yellow. Seed 1. Common in secondary forest, Moruca. Fruits are eaten directly or crushed in sugar water to make a beverage. The wood is considered very good firewood. A teaspoon of the sap from three macerated shoots is given to babies with thrush.

Byrsonima stipulacea A. Juss. **MALPIGHIACEAE**
Hairy hicha (Cr), Hicha, Kanoaballi[1] (Ar), Mïrï-i (C), Hitia (Wr).
Tree to 20 m tall. Leaves clustered at branch ends, puberulous below. Stipules large. Flowers yellow, in terminal, many-flowered racemes. Drupe yellow. Seed 1. Frequent in secondary forest, Barama and Barima. The fruits are edible. Trees are cut down to collect bowls full of fruits. The wood is favoured as firewood.
(1) 'Canoe tree' after the boat-shaped leaves (Fanshawe, 1949).

Lophopterys euryptera Sandw. **MALPIGHIACEAE**
Masi (C).
Liana. Leaves large, papery, light green below. Samaras 3, wings straw-coloured. Nut globose. In Mora forest, Barama. According to an old Carib belief, the kenaima spirit always carries a black powder made from dried, pulverised masi root. This powder is put in the victim's mouth to make him cough and sneeze. If swallowed, the powder would destroy his intestines. As antidote to this powder, an infusion of the slimy inner bark of white congo pump (*Cecropia sciadophylla*) should be drunk.

Spachea elegans (G. Mey.) A. Juss **MALPIGHIACEAE**
Noya ereparï[1] (C).
Tree to 25 m tall. Outer bark dark brown, inner bark pink, wood yellow. Flowers in terminal, rusty brown panicles. Fruit green, nutlike. In riverbank Mora forest, Barama. The fruits are eaten by fish. When the fruits are ripe, people fish under this tree or use the fruits as bait.

(1) 'Noya food', named after a 20 cm long, spotted catfish, also known by its Arawak name 'himiri' (*Parauchenipterus galeatus*).

Hibiscus bifurcatus Cav. **MALVACEAE**
Wild sorrel (Cr), Yahoballi (Ar), Sno-ï (C).
Shrub. Stem with rough spines. Leaves palmately lobed. Flowers large, pink with a dark purple centre and staminal tube, petals twisted. In mokomoko riverbank vegetation, Moruca. Leaves are boiled and drunk as tea for cough and colds.

Malachra alceifolia Jacq. **var alceifolia** **MALVACEAE**
Malva (Cr).
Shrub. Leaves palmately lobed, strong-scented. Flowers yellow. Capsule hairy, brown. In open secondary vegetation, cultivated in Moruca house yards. A decoction of the leaves is used to cleanse sores. The boiled leaves are applied as a poultice on the sores afterwards. For earache, a tea from six leaves is poured in a bottle, wrapped in a rag. The hot bottle is held against the temples.

Sida rhombifolia L. **MALVACEAE**
Big broom, Yard broom, Six o' clock (Cr), Escoba (Sp), Asokoa[1] (C).
Shrubby herb to 1.5 m high. Leaves aromatic, margins serrate. Flowers yellow, small. Capsule black, carpels 2-awned. In open secondary shrubland. Cultivated in Amerindian house yards. A bundle of twigs bound together is used as broom. A tea from the whole plant is drunk steadily to relieve kidney disorders. In Georgetown, the tea is drunk for menstruation pains and ovarian tube infection. The plant is boiled with a grated cochineal leaf (*Opuntia cochinellifera*) and used to wash the hair to make rasta dreadlocks. Sold at the Georgetown herbal market.
(1) The Carib name is probably derived from the Spanish word 'escoba' (broom).

Urena lobata L. **MALVACEAE**
Dog foot (Cr), Beroro auma[1] (Wr).
Shrubby herb. Leaves palmately veined, greyish green below. Flowers lilac, with a bright pink centre. Capsule black, soft spiny. In pastures and secondary shrubland on white sand, Waini. Six branches with leaves, flowers, and fruits are boiled as tea and taken by women suffering from 'lining cold' (puerperal fever).
(1) 'Dog foot', after the paw-shaped leaves.

Calathea cyclophora Baker **MARANTACEAE**
Sawara[1] (Ar).
Terrestrial herb to 1 m high. Leaves dark red below, midrib white. Petioles pink. Inflorescences at stem base, bracts pink, flowers white, trumpet-shaped. In secondary forest, Barama. A leaf is briefly heated over a fire, macerated, and squeezed in a spoon. The sap is drunk with a pinch of salt for colds, or dripped into sore eyes. The pulverised ashes of burned leaves are applied to burns. The leaves are used as wrapping material.
(1) 'Wrinkled', from the tendency to wrinkle when dry (Fanshawe, 1949).

Calathea elliptica (Roscoe) K. Schum. **MARANTACEAE**
Amotu (C).
Herb to 1 m high. Leaves purplish below. Petiole winged. Inflorescence on a separate, leafless shoot. Flowers delicate, tubular, white. Fruit yellow, ribbed. In Mora forest and open secondary vegetation. The leaves are used as wrapping material. Fish is rolled in these leaves and roasted on a 'babracote' (barbecue).

Ischnosiphon enigmaticus L. Andersson **MARANTACEAE**
Asidja (hill type) (C).
Scrambling shrub to 4 m tall. Leaves papillose below, clustered in nodes, separated by cane-like internodes. Flowers yellow to purple. In mixed forest, Barama. The split stem yields an inferior plaiting material. The strips are plaited into low-grade crab quakes. Children make toy arrows from the stems.

Ischnosiphon foliosus Gleason **MARANTACEAE**

Mokru (small kind) (Cr), Sarabana, Sürükuli mukru, Itiriti (Ar), Asidya (C).

Scrambling shrub. Leaves small, asymmetric, with a dark purple band below, clustered in nodes, separated by cane-like internodes. Common in secondary forest. The split stem yields an inferior plaiting material. Strips are plaited into low-grade crab or fish quakes. Children make toy arrows from the stems.

Ischnosiphon obliquus (Rudge) Koern. **MARANTACEAE**

Soft mokru (Cr), Itiriti, Mokoro (Ar), Tamutu (C), Sehuru, Sehoro (Wr).

Shrub to 3.5 m tall. Leaves large, clustered in nodes on top of cane-like stem. Flowers yellow, in terminal synflorescence, bracts white, waxy. Common in secondary forest. The split stems yield a plaiting fibre for household equipment, which is of lesser quality than the fibre from hard mokru (*I. arouma*). The stems are woven into low-grade sifters, matapis, fans, and other basketry. The strips are used as shoulder straps for makeshift warishis and to stitch troolie roofs. Entire stems serve as arrowstick, as a substitute for *Gynerium sagittatum*. Stems are stuck in the mud as a fence to block creeks before poisoning. Leaves are rubbed on warts. A poultice of crushed leaves is applied to cuts to stop bleeding and prevent infection. Leaves are used as wrapping material and as small shelters to protect goods from the rain. Leaves are loosely rolled as a funnel and placed in a toad hole to catch the animal. Hunters roll the leaves tightly into a tube and sucked this with a smacking sound to call labbas. Mokru handicrafts are widely sold in the region and exported in small quantities to the Caribbean islands.

Ischnosiphon sp. TVA3016 **MARANTACEAE**

Wild mokru (Cr).

Shrub, ca. 1.5 m tall. Leaves clustered in nodes. Stem cane-like. Petioles long. Flowers not seen. In manicole swamp, Assakata. A dough of maize and pumpkin is wrapped in a leaf and boiled in a dish called ‘kenkey’.

Maranta sp. TVA2217 **MARANTACEAE**

Kind of mokru (Cr), Warerobana (Ar).

Herb, ca. 40 cm tall. Leaves purple below. In secondary forest, Moruca. Leaves are used as wrapping material.

Monotagma spicatum (Aubl.) J.F. Macbr. **MARANTACEAE**

Aumana bana[1] (Ar), Peyawo (C), Sehoro mukumuku[2] (Wr).

Herb to 1.5 m high. Leaves with asymmetric apex. Inflorescence on a separate, leafless stem, bracts straw-coloured. Flowers greenish, staminodes bluish. In Mora and secondary forest. Leaves are used as wrapping material and as a funnel to melt lead, with a small stick inserted into the tapering end to make a hole in the lead for the fishing line. Leaves rolled tightly into a tube are sucked with a smacking sound to catch labbas.

(1) ‘Clumped leaf’, after the habit of the plant (Fanshawe, 1949); (2) The Warao name means ‘small mokru’.

Marcgravia coriacea Vahl **MARCGRAVIACEAE**
Tiger paw[1] (Cr), Arua kabo (Ar), Kaityusi einyarï (C).
Liana. Twigs flat, lenticellate. Inflorescence umbellate, pendent, bracts transformed into cup-shaped nectaries. Berry globose. Common in manicole swamp. The clear water from the stem is dripped into sore eyes.
(1) The Creole name is a translation of both Amerindian names, referring to the shape of the infructescence (Fanshawe, 1949).

Norantea guianensis Aubl. **MARCGRAVIACEAE**
Karakara (Ar), Konopo yorokorï (C).
Large woody climber. Exudate little, red. Leaves leathery. Racemes terminal, ca. 60 cm long. Nectaries numerous, bright red. Berry globose. In swamp forest on pegasse. The bark or wood is cut into pieces, soaked in water, and drunk against diarrhoea and vomiting. The wood is boiled for one hour and the bright red tea is taken against diarrhoea. The plant is used in a bath or rubbed on the body against fever.

Souroubea guianensis Aubl. subsp. **guianensis** **MARCGRAVIACEAE**
Karakara, Kwerimuro[1] (Ar), Konopo yorokorï (C), Wene (Wr).
Scrambling shrub. Leaves stiff, leathery. Racemes many-flowered, ca. 20 cm long, nectaries bright red, with a long spur. Berry subglobose, hard, greenish brown. In swamp forest on pegasse. A branch is boiled with kairiballi bark (*Licania heteromorpha* var. *perplexans*) and some water from troolie seeds (*Manicaria saccifera*) into a remedy for venereal diseases. A bottle full of the medicine should be taken during some weeks. The wood alone is boiled as tea to treat diarrhoea and vomiting.
(1) 'Eggs of the kwerimo fish', which bear a resemblance to the odd-shaped flowers.

Aciotis annua (Mart. ex DC.) Triana **MELASTOMATACEAE**
Herb. Stems quadrangular. Leaves purplish green. Flowers white, in erect, terminal cymes. Berry small. Growing as weed in cultivated fields, Barama. Leaves are boiled with sugar into a syrup for colds.

Aciotis purpurascens (Aubl.) Triana **MELASTOMATACEAE**
Wild sauari (Cr), Tïyasakoreng (C).
Fleshy herb to 50 cm high. Stem quadrangular. Whole plant covered with white hairs. Flowers white, stamens purple. Berry small. Seedlings occur in cultivated fields, adults in secondary forest, Barama. The whole plant is boiled with sugar into a syrup for colds. The berries are eaten by small children.

Clidemia capitellata (Bonpl.) D. Don var. **dependens** **MELASTOMATACEAE**
(D. Don) J.F. Macbr.
Bird seed (Cr), Tonoru wokuru[1] (C).
Shrub to 1 m, densely covered with soft, red hairs. Flowers white, in lateral inflorescences. Berry small, black. Common in abandoned fields and secondary forest, Barama. The berries are eaten by small children.
(1) The Carib name means 'bird drink'.

Clidemia japurensis DC. var. **japurensis** **MELASTOMATACEAE**
Sakusaku[1], Tïkasyeng wokuru[2], Tonoro wokuru (C).
Shrub to 2 m tall. Young leaves and twigs covered with soft, red hairs. Berry blue, juicy. In Mora swamp and secondary forest, Barama. The berries have a watery taste, stain hands and teeth blue, and are eaten by small children. The sap from crushed leaves is squeezed in sores, which are then covered with a leaf.
(1) Caribs often call juicy fruits with many seeds 'sokosoko' or 'sakusaku', after the chewed mass of cassava bread that used to be spat back to ferment cassava beer; (2) Tïkasyeng or tïyasakoreng is a small bird that feeds on the fruits.

Clidemia cf. **microthyrsa** R.O. Williams **MELASTOMATACEAE**
Shrub. Leaves covered with soft hairs. Flowers white, in lateral inflorescences. Berry pinkish, turning purple when ripe, with blue juice. In abandoned fields and secondary forest, Moruca. The berries are edible.

Henriettea cf. **multiflora** Naudin **MELASTOMATACEAE**
Chiggernet, Big jiggernet, Himiri egg[1] (Cr), Itara, Kaboanama beltiri[2] (Ar), Nanaporan[3], Pakira yuyuru[4] (C).
Small tree. Leaves hairy below. Flowers white, in small, lateral clusters on old branches. Anthers purple. Berry dark green to red, densely strigose. In secondary forest and manicole swamps. The slimy fruit pulp is edible.
(1) The seeds in the slimy pulp resemble the eggs of a spotted catfish himiri (*Parauchenipterus galeatus*); (2) 'Cassava beer of the squirrel monkey' (*Saimiri sciureus*); (3) 'Smells like pineapple' (*Ananas comosus*); (4) 'Abscess of the bush hog' (*Tayassu tacaju*).

Henriettea succosa (Aubl.) DC. **MELASTOMATACEAE**
Jiggernet (Cr), Itara, Kaboanama beltiri (Ar), Pakira yuyuru (C).
Small tree. Leaves glabrous, whitish below, margin ciliate. Flowers in lateral clusters on old wood. Berry green to red, brown sericeous, 2-3 together. In riverbank Mora forest, Barama. The fruits are edible.

Leandra divaricata (Naud.) Cogn. **MELASTOMATACEAE**
Black seed (Cr), Sokosoko, Nono pokono (C).
Small shrub to 50 cm high. Young leaves covered with long, white hairs. Flowers white, in terminal inflorescences. Berry red, turning black when ripe. In secondary forest along trails. The watery berries are eaten by small children, who stain their hands and mouth purple with the crushed fruits for fun.

Miconia ceramicarpa (DC.) Cogn. var. **ceramicarpa** **MELASTOMATACEAE**
Waraia, Karimanbari (Ar), Tonoro wokuru (C).
Shrub. Stem red. Leaves covered with soft, red hairs, margins serrate. Young leaves red. Flowers white. Berry red, turning blue and spongy when ripe. In secondary forest and abandoned fields, Barama. The watery berries are eaten by small children.

Miconia ibaguensis (Bonpl.) Triana **MELASTOMATACEAE**
Bird seed (Cr), Waraia (Ar).
Shrub. Young leaves covered with pink hairs. Flowers white, in terminal inflorescences. Berry black. In secondary forest along roads, Moruca. Children use the forked branches for slingshots and eat the berries.

Miconia cf. **lateriflora** Cogn. subsp. **lateriflora** **MELASTOMATACEAE**
Meremere (Ar).
Small tree. Leaf veins reddish below. Flowers white, in terminal inflorescences. Berry small. Occasional in secondary forest, Moruca. The wood is said to be very hard and used for roof rafters.

Miconia nervosa (J.E. Smith) Triana **MELASTOMATACEAE**
Bird food (Cr), Waraia (Ar).
Shrub to 5 m tall. Leaves covered with soft hairs, greyish green below. Inflorescence terminal, bright orange. Flowers small, white. Berry purple, spongy. In secondary forest, Moruca. The fruits are eaten by children.

Miconia prasina (Sw.) DC. **MELASTOMATACEAE**
Jiggernet (Cr), Waraia, Selele beletere (Ar), Pirityo, Yalipi, Konorepi (C).
Small tree. Leaves with red veins. Flowers white, subsessile, in terminal panicles. Berry dark green to red, purplish black when ripe. In secondary and riverbank Mora forest, Barama. The fruits are edible.

Miconia racemosa (Aubl.) DC. **MELASTOMATACEAE**
Black seed (Cr), Waraia (Ar), Sakusaku, Sokosoko (C).
Shrub, ca. 2 m tall. Leaves glabrous. Flowers whitish green, small, in terminal panicles. Stamens pink. Berry purple, with blue juice. In secondary vegetation and manicole swamp. The berries are eaten by small children.

Miconia cf. **ruficalyx** Gleason **MELASTOMATACEAE**
Bird food tree, Birdseed (Cr), Wakaradan (Ar), Tonoro wokuru, Tonoropio, Sakusaku (C), Sikararia (Wr).
Tree to 20m tall. Leaves red-brown velutinous. Wood white, turning purple when in contact with air. Flowers white, in small cymules. Berry purple. Common in secondary forest. The fruits are edible. The wood is locally sawn into boards, used for flooring and beams. People believe that using the wood as fuel will attract jiggers.

Miconia sp. TVA1104 **MELASTOMATACEAE**
Birdseed (Cr) Tonoro wokuru (C).
Small shrub. Leaves covered with white hairs and distinct secondary veins. Growing as weed in cassava field, Barama. The berries are eaten by small children.

Cedrela odorata L. **MELIACEAE**
Red cedar, Brown cedar (Cr), Akuyari (Ar), Akakasinya (C).
Tree to 35 m tall. Outer bark dark red, vertically fissured, inner bark bright red. Leaves paripinnate, clustered at branch ends. Flowers greenish white. Capsule spotted. Seeds winged. In secondary and mixed forest, sometimes planted in Moruca house yards for future timber use. The aromatic wood is a commercial timber, locally used for canoes, coffins, paddles, guitars, banjos, quattros, tool handles, furniture, bird cages, and speaker boxes. A decoction of the bark is used to cleanse persistent 'lifetime' sores. Cedar wood crafts are sold in interior villages.

Guarea guidonia (L.) Sleumer **MELIACEAE**
Bastard wild coffee, Buck vomit (Cr), Karababalli (Ar), Atïwa-u (C), Ukamueru (Wr).
Medium-sized tree. Leaves large, 4-8-jugate, glabrous. Flowers cream, in axillary, pendent panicles. Capsule greenish orange, 4-valved. Seeds golden brown. In secondary and riverbank Mora forest. In Barama, the inner bark scrapings are boiled and strained. A calabash full of the tea is drunk to induce vomiting. The medicine was said to be very strong. The wood is favoured for firewood, because it splits easily.

Guarea pubescens (Rich.) A. Juss. subsp. **pubescens** **MELIACEAE**
Wild coffee (Cr), Kufiballi[1], Banyabo (Ar), Kobi mohoka[1] (Wr).
Small tree. Leaves 2-5-jugate. Panicles axillary or produced from the main branches, puberulous. Capsule subglobose, brown to dull-red or purple, tomentose. In secondary forest, Waini. The roots are dug up, heated over the fire, scraped, mixed with water, and strained. A calabash full is drunk to induce vomiting, which is said to relieve biliousness.
(1) Both Amerindian names signify 'wild coffee', as the fruits resemble coffee berries.

Trichilia rubra C. DC. **MELIACEAE**
Monkey syrup (Cr), Yuriballi, Hayakanta (Ar), Waidya (C).
Medium-sized tree. Outer bark dark red, inner bark scarlet, with sweet, transparent exudate. Leaves 7-9-jugate. Flowers in small, dense, sessile clusters in axillary panicles. Capsule purplish. In Mora forest, Barama. The capsule is broken open and the sour fruit pulp is eaten. The wood is used for paddles.

Trichilia schomburgkii C. DC. subsp. **schomburgkii** **MELIACEAE**
Baboon ears (Cr), Yuriballi (Ar), Arawata pana[1] (C).
Tree, to 20 m tall. Outer bark black, flaky, inner bark dark yellow. Leaves 7-9-jugate. Stipules large, leaflike. Panicles tomentose. Capsule 3-valved, wrinkled, brown. In mixed forest. The strong wood is used for paddles and house construction (runners, house posts). Bows are made from the young trunks.
(1) 'Baboon ears', after the ear-like stipules.

Orthomene schomburgkii (Miers) Barneby & Krukoff **MENISPERMACEAE**
Monkey genip (Cr), Ituri ishi lokodo[1] (Ar), Kulatawe wete, Tama kalemu (C).
Liana, climbing with stem. Petioles reddish yellow. Flowers solitary or axillary, in short inflorescences. Monocarps yellow with white spots. Seed 1. In swamp forest, Moruca. The sweet fruit pulp is edible.
(1) 'Baboon testicles', after the paired fruits.

Telitoxicum sp. TVA1265 **MENISPERMACEAE**
Granny backbone (Cr).
Flat-stemmed liana. Leaves alternate, simple. In secondary forest, Barama. The stem is scraped and boiled or soaked in cold water. The bitter liquid is taken for malaria, fever, and to bitter the blood.

Siparuna guianensis Aubl. **MONIMIACEAE**
Munuri bush (Cr), Munuridan[1] (Ar), Idyakopi (C), Hiyo arau[1] (Wr).
Shrub or small tree. Leaves with repulsive smell. Flowers small, green, in puberulous cymes or racemes. Pseudofruits subglobose, purplish red. Common in abandoned fields and secondary shrubland. The bark is rubbed on munuri ant bites. Leaves or bark scrapings are boiled to bathe children suffering from skin rash. Children use the fruits as slingshot ammunition. The sap from heated and crushed leaves is squeezed in cuts. This is quite painfully, but allows a fast healing. Leaves are rubbed on bee stings to relieve the pain.
(1) The Arawak and Warao name mean 'munuri ant tree'.

Bagassa guianensis Aubl. **MORACEAE**
Cow wood (Cr), Yawahü dan[1] (Ar), Pakasa[2] (C).
Tree to 35 m, with thick buttresses. Abundant white latex. Leaves opposite, entire to 3-lobed. Male inflorescences spicate, female ones capitate. Infructescences greenish yellow, globose. Rare in mixed forest. The wood is a commercial timber, locally sawn into boards. The fruit (infructescence) is edible.
(1) 'Jumbie tree' (Fanshawe, 1949); (2) The Carib name means 'cow wood', because of the latex (paka = cow).

Brosimum guianense (Aubl.) Huber **MORACEAE**
Letterwood (Cr), Bürü koro koba, Tibo kushi (Ar), Timeri, Paida (C), Washiba[1] (Wr).
Tree to 45m tall. Latex cream, bitter. Leaves grey-green below. Plant monoecious. Inflorescences discoid to spherical. Pseudofruit greenish yellow, turning dark red. Occasional in secondary forest, Moruca. The wood is a commercial timber, locally valued for axe handles, bows, and walking sticks.
(1) The Warao name means 'bow' (Charette, 1980).

Ficus amazonica (Miq.) Miq. **MORACEAE**
Matapalo (Sp), Dau aidabita[1] (Wr).
Shrub or strangler fig. Little white latex. Leaves small. Figs (sub-)sessile, clustered on the branches, ca. 5 mm in diam., green outside, pinkish brown inside. In secondary forest or mokomoko riverbank vegetation. The latex is slightly warmed and rubbed on abscesses or swellings. It also serves as paper glue and to catch birds.
(1) The Warao name means 'tree that grows on tree'.

Ficus caballina Standl. **MORACEAE**
White kuwasimei, Kuwasimyung (C)
Scrambling shrub or strangler fig. Leaves large, narrowly elliptic, veins yellow. Abundant white latex. Stipules large, dry, brown. Figs small, reddish yellow, in clusters of 2-4 on branches. In riverbank forest, Barama. The latex is rubbed on scraped skin or sprained limbs. The latex is mixed with cassava starch into a paste to catch birds. The figs are put on a hook as fish bait. Large strangler figs are believed to be inhabited by spirits which are consulted by people in extreme despair.

Ficus gomelleira Kunth & Bouché **MORACEAE**
Matapalo (Sp).
Large, buttressed strangler fig. Abundant white latex. Figs solitary among leaves, ca. 2 cm in diam., greenish yellow or reddish brown, puberulous. Rare in manicole swamp, Assakata. A long piece of cloth is soaked in the latex and tightly wrapped around sprained or broken limbs as a kind of plaster bandage. The latex is also used as glue. Large strangler figs are believed to be inhabited by spirits, which are consulted by people in extreme despair. If properly addressed, these spirits can cause miracles. If a person walks under a strangler fig tree at 12 o'clock, he is bound to get lost in the forest and walk in circles all the time. The only way to free oneself from the spirit and find back the way, is to split a mokru stem (*Ischnosiphon* spp.) and step through it.

Ficus guianensis Desv. **MORACEAE**
Fig tree (Cr).
Small tree. Abundant white latex. Leaves smooth. Figs pink to reddish, in small bundles among the leaves. In swampy secondary forest, Moruca. The fruits are edible. The latex is used as glue to catch birds.

Ficus maxima Mill. **MORACEAE**
Fig tree (Cr), Keweri yumï ereparï[1] (C).
Medium-sized tree. Leaves rough below, with abundant white latex. Figs solitary among leaves, green, round, ca. 2.5. cm in diam. Common in Mora riverbank forest, Barama The figs are put on a hook as fish bait. People fish under the tree to catch button fish, a 15 cm long scale fish known as larima (Ar) or keweri (C).
(1) The Carib name means 'food of the button fish father'.

Ficus nymphaeifolia Mill. **MORACEAE**
Black matapalo (Sp).
Large strangler fig. Branches brittle, with white latex. Leaves grey-green below. Figs in pairs among the leaves, reddish purple mottled, ca. 2 cm in diam. Rare in manicole swamp, Assakata. A long piece of cloth is soaked in the latex and tightly wrapped around sprained or broken limbs as a plaster bandage. A tea from the wood is drunk as a beverage. Strangler figs are believed to be inhabited by spirits, consulted by people in extreme misery.

Ficus paraensis (Miq.) Miq. **MORACEAE**
Keweri yumï ereparï, Brown kuwasimei, Kuwasimyang (C).
Small tree or strangler fig. Leaves glabrous. Latex white. Figs in dense clusters on branch ends, round, ca. 1 cm diam., reddish with green spots. Common in riverbank Mora forest, Barama. The latex is rubbed on scraped skin or sprained limbs, and mixed with cassava starch into a paste to catch birds. The figs are used as bait to catch bumbum fish (singing catfish, *Pterodoras granulosus*). Large fig trees are said to be inhabited by spirits.

Ficus vs. **roraimensis** **MORACEAE**
Matapalo (Ar).
Strangler fig. Outer bark dark red, lenticellate, inner bark yellow. Abundant white latex. Rare in mixed forest, Barama. The latex is rubbed on sprained limbs and mixed with cassava starch into a paste.

Ficus sp. TVA892 **MORACEAE**
Strangler fig (Cr), Kuwasimei (C).
Strangler fig. Outer bark dark red, lenticellate, inner bark yellow. Abundant white latex. Rare in mixed forest, Barama. The latex is rubbed on sprained limbs and mixed with cassava starch into a paste.

Heliconia acuminata Rich. var. **acuminata** **MUSACEAE**
Wild banana, Bush fowl foot (Cr), Warereobana (Ar), Parïrï, Kotaka seidyï[1] (C).
Herb to 2 m high. Leaves bright green, midrib, margin, and base reddish brown. Inflorescence erect. Bracts red, narrowly boat-shaped, some ending in a green leaf. Flowers dull-green with yellow. Fruit fleshy, dark blue. Common in secondary forest. The leaves are used as wrapping material and as shelter for the rain.
(1) 'Shin bone of the bush fowl' (*Aramides cajanea*), as the red inflorescences resemble the bird's legs.

Heliconia bihai (L.) L. **MUSACEAE**
Hariti (Ar), Parïrï[1] (C).
Herb to 3 m high. Leaves green, yellowish below. Inflorescence yellow, erect, ca. 1 m long. Bracts ca. 10, orange and yellow, broadly boat-shaped. Flowers light green and white. In Mora forest, Barama. The leaves are used as temporary roof thatch of forest camps to substitute manicole leaves (*Euterpe oleracea*), and as rain shelter.
(1) The Carib name means 'wild banana'.

Heliconia chartacea Lane ex Barreiros **MUSACEAE**
Wild banana (Cr), Hariti (Ar), Parïrï (small kind) (C).
Herb to 1.5 m high. Inflorescence pink, pendent, ca. 1 m long. Bracts boat-shaped, dark red to pink. Fruit blue, fleshy, large. Occasional in Mora forest, Barama. The leaves are used as temporary roof thatch of forest camps to substitute manicole leaves (*Euterpe oleracea*), and as rain shelter.

Heliconia aff. **psittacorum** L.f. **MUSACEAE**
Itch bush (Cr), Hariti (Ar), Kurewako enuru (C).
Herb to 1.5 m high. Stem with reddish dots and irritating sap. Leaves dark green, narrowly elliptic. Inflorescence erect. Bracts narrowly boat-shaped, orange. Flowers orange with green tips. Fruits dark blue. In secondary forest, Moruca. Children use the leaf sheaths as a whistle to attract snakes.

Heliconia richardiana Miq. **MUSACEAE**
Hariti (Ar), Parïrï (C).
Herb to 2 m high. Leaves deep green above, greyish green below. Petiole reddish brown. Inflorescence red, erect. Bracts 6-7, narrowly boat-shaped, yellow. Flowers yellow. Fruit glaucous, blue-black. In secondary forest, Barama. The leaves are used to thatch forest camp roofs and as wrapping material. Children carve toy arrows from the petioles.

Heliconia spathocircinata Aristeg. **MUSACEAE**
Wild banana (Cr), Hariti (Ar), Parïrï (C).
Herb to 3 m high. Leaves green, petiole speckled purple-brown. Inflorescence erect. Bracts shallowly boat shaped, red, upper margin yellow. Flowers yellow. Fruit blue-black. In secondary forest, Barama. The leaves are used to thatch forest camp roofs as substitute for manicole leaves (*Euterpe oleracea*)

Iryanthera juruensis Warb. **MYRISTICACEAE**
Swamp dalli, Broad leaf dalli (Cr), Dalli, Kirikaua (Ar), Sita (Wr).
Tree to 25 m tall. Exudate watery, red. Leaves rusty puberulous below. Plant monoecious. Inflorescences racemose. Capsules in fascicles on main branches, 2-valved. Seed 1, aril red. Common in swamp forest on pegasse, occasional in mixed forest. In the past, the wood was exploited by a Surinamese logging company for plywood. Nowadays, it is used for boards, canoes, and music instruments (violins, banjos, and quattros), played in traditional Arawak Banshikili music. The red sap is rubbed on mouth and skin sores, cuts, and the fungus-infected mouths of babies with thrush. The sap is diluted in water and given orally to treat thrush or used to gargle against tonsillitis.

Virola calophylla Warb. **MYRISTICACEAE**
White broad leaf dalli (Cr), Dalli (Ar).
Tree to 20 m tall. Outer bark cracked. Exudate watery, orange brown. Leaves red-brown puberulous. Inflorescences racemose. Capsule 2-valved. Seed 1, aril red. In secondary and mixed forest. In Moruca, the wood is sawn into boards. The red sap is rubbed on mouth sores and on the fungus-infected mouths of babies with thrush. The sap is diluted in water and given orally to treat thrush or used to gargle against tonsillitis.

Virola elongata (Benth.) Warb. **MYRISTICACEAE**
Swamp dalli (Cr), Dalli (Ar), Mïrïhsi (C), Diharu (Wr).
Small tree. Branches in whorls. Exudate red. Leaves grey below, yellowish when young. Inflorescences racemose. Capsule 2-valved. Seed 1, aril red. In secondary forest and manicole swamp. The soft wood is locally used for boards, rafts, low-grade canoes, and firewood. The wood should be oiled to prevent insect attacks. In the past, it was felled by a Surinamese logging company for plywood. The sap is rubbed on the mouth sores of babies with thrush. The sap is diluted in water and given orally to treat thrush or used to gargle against tonsillitis.

Virola sebifera Aubl. **MYRISTICACEAE**
Hill dalli Cr), Dalli (Ar), Warushiran (C).
Tree to 20 m tall. Exudate red. Leaves grey below. Panicles and capsule rusty tomentose. Seed 1, aril red. In secondary and mixed forest. The wood is used in house construction. The red sap is rubbed on mouth sores.

Virola surinamensis (Rol.) Warb. **MYRISTICACEAE**
White dalli, Fine leaf dalli (Cr), Dalli (Ar), Warushi (C).
Tree to 35 m tall. Exudate red. Leaves in two rows, yellowish green below. Flowers yellow, in axillary panicles. Capsule, green, ribbed. Seed 1. Aril red. Common in swamp forest on pegasse. The wood is a commercial timber, locally used for boards and traditional Arawak music instruments. The red sap is rubbed on the mouth sores of babies with thrush. The sap is diluted in water and given orally to treat thrush or used to gargle against tonsillitis. A piece of cotton soaked in the sap is pushed in cavities to relieve toothache.

Cybianthus sp. TVA1940 **MYRSINACEAE**
Small tree. Leaves alternate, with translucent dots. Berry small, black, with sticky pulp. Along riverbanks of manicole swamps, Assakata. The berries are occasionally used to paint, giving a blue-green colour on paper.

Stylogyne surinamensis (Miq.) Mez **MYRSINACEAE**
Payawaru[1] (swamp type) (C).
Small tree. Leaves fleshy, with translucent dots. Flowers small, white, in red, axillary panicles. Drupe small, red, turning purple-black. In secondary and Mora forest. The fruits are edible. The hard wood is occasionally used for arrow sockets.
(1) An alcoholic drink (paiwari) was probably made from the fruits in the past. The 'hill type' of payawaru could not be located.

Calycolpus goetheanus (Mart. ex DC.) O. Berg **MYRTACEAE**
Wild guava (Cr), Wayawitu, Reperepeshi, Kakürio (Ar), Aware tamïpipyo[1], Awarinamedi, Ohtono epïtyï[2] (C), Wariaba mohaka (Wr).
Small tree. Leaves opposite, with pellucid glands. Flowers large, pinkish white, in leaf axils; stamens numerous, straw-coloured. Berry black, crowned by disc and sepals. Seeds many, hard. In secondary shrubland along roads, Moruca. The spongy, purple fruit pulp is eaten, mostly by children. A decoction of the young shoots is drunk for high blood pressure or used as a steam bath for fever. The tea from the bark is drunk with some sugar or salt for diarrhoea and cough, although the extreme bitterness might cause vomiting. The wood is used as firewood.
(1) The Carib name means 'cigarette paper of the oppossum'; (2) 'Cold cure'.

Calyptranthes sp. TVA2239 **MYRTACEAE**
Taparau (Ar).
Small tree. Outer bark brown, inner bark dark red, wood yellow, hard. Branches reddish brown. Leaves opposite, pinkish orange when young, with pellucid glands. Common in quackal swamp forest. The fruits are edible and made into an alcoholic drink. The wood used as firewood.

Eugenia florida DC. **MYRTACEAE**
Wild cherry (Cr), Alikoya (Ar), Yarami (C).
Small tree. Leaves opposite, reddish green, with pellucid glands. Panicles axillary, 6-20-flowered. Berry red to black, fleshy, in bundles of 2-3, with persistent sepals. Rare in Mora riverbank forest, Barama. The fruits are mostly eaten by children.

Marlierea montana (Aubl.) Amshoff **MYRTACEAE**
Quackoo (Cr), Taparau, Kuaku (Ar).
Tree, ca. 12 m tall. Outer bark reddish brown, inner bark red, wood orange. Branches rusty brown. Leaves opposite, with pellucid glands. Young leaves red. Berry red to purple-black. Common in quackal swamp forest. The fruits are edible and made into an alcoholic drink. The wood is considered as very good firewood.

Marlierea schomburgkiana O. Berg **MYRTACEAE**
Dowdow, Wild cherry, Black asepoko, Warakaba eye (Cr), Swamp haimaracushi, Akarako (Ar), Tutu, Akami enuru (C), Dau dau (Wr).
Medium-sized tree. Leaves small, opposite, long-acuminate, with pellucid glands. Flowers white, in axillary cymes. Stamens long. Berry black. Seeds embedded in grey, sweet pulp. In secondary and mixed forest, occasional in manicole swamp. The fruits are edible and sweet. The hard wood is used for warishi frames. Straight trunks may be used for rafters, otherwise as firewood.

Myrcia graciliflora Sagot **MYRTACEAE**
Wild guava, Dowdow (Cr), Ibibanaro (Ar), Tutu, Kasa'mi, Ara-a, Akami enuru[1] (C), Dau dau (Wr).
Small tree. Outer bark flaky, inner bark orange, wood white, hard. Leaves opposite, long-acuminate, with pellucid glands. Flowers white, sweet-scented, in subterminal panicles. Berry black, crowned by sepals. Frequent in mixed forest. The fruits are edible and sweet. The wood is used for house construction, warishi frames and firewood.
(1) The Carib name means 'warakaba eye'.

Myrcia cf. **guianensis** (Aubl.) DC. **MYRTACEAE**
Quackoo, Cherry (Cr), Kuaku, Kakürio (Ar).
Tree to 15 m tall. Outer bark flaky, inner bark red. Panicles racemose, axillary and terminal. Berry subglobose, greenish pink to reddish black when ripe. In secondary forest, Moruca. The fruits are edible and sweet. The hard wood is used for house construction and firewood.

Myrcia sylvatica (G. Mey.) DC. **MYRTACEAE**
Christmas tree (Cr), Ibibanaro (Ar).
Small tree. Leaves small. Flowers white, in puberulous panicles. Berry red to black, ca. 0.5 cm in diam. Locally abundant in secondary shrubland on white sand, Assakata. The berries are edible and ripe around Christmas.

Nephrolepis aff. **biserrata** (Sw.) Schott **NEPHROLEPIDACEAE**
Swamp maran (Cr).
Terrestrial fern. Rhizome reddish brown, with scales and numerous roots. Fronds monomorphic, pinnate, pinnae subequal at base. Indusia orbicular, dark brown. Forming dense stands in frequently burned and flooded savanna, Moruca. The sap from crushed leaves is squeezed in cuts as disinfectant.

Neea cf. **constricta** Spruce ex Schmidt **NYCTAGINACEAE**
Mamudan[1] (Ar), Small leaf sakusaku (C).
Tree to 20 m tall. Outer bark cream, lenticellate, inner bark and wood yellow. Leaves leathery. Flowers small, in terminal panicles. Fruit fleshy, pinkish purple, ca. 1 cm in diam. Rare in secondary and mixed forest. In Barama, the fruits are occasionally eaten.
(1) 'Maam tree', as this bird feeds on the fruits (Fanshawe, 1949).

Neea cf. **floribunda** Poepp. & Endl. **NYCTAGINACEAE**
Mamudan (Ar), Big leaf sakusaku (C), Humatuba (Wr).
Small tree. Leaves large. Outer bark light brown, inner bark and wood yellow. Flowers small, in terminal or cauliflorous panicles. Fruit purple, ca. 1.5 cm in diam. In disturbed Mora and secondary forest, Barama. The fruits are edible. The wood is used for firewood.

Nymphaea ampla (Salisb.) DC. **NYMPHAEACEAE**
Duckweed (Cr), Morüta (Ar), Mureru (C).
Aquatic herb. Petioles to 1 m long, with air channels. Leaves green above, dark red, reticulate below. Margins serrate with age. Flowers large, white, turning pink after a day. Stamens yellow. Very abundant in shallow rivers and flooded savanna, Moruca. The hollow petioles are used as substitute gasoline 'lead' for outboard motors. They do not last long, but engines are occasionally stolen by using duckweed petioles. Children use the stems as straw, to string fish or to make chains. Fresh fish or crabs are covered with the wet leaves to protect them from sun and heat. Rotten leaves are rubbed on warts (known locally as 'beruga'). Fresh leaves are fed to pigs. Flowers are occasionally gathered for ornamental purposes.

Ouratea guianensis Aubl. **OCHNACEAE**
Aligator foot print[1] (Cr), Akarï tapurarakïrï (C).
Small, strongly branched tree. Leaves entire. Flowers yellow, in terminal, pyramidal panicles, ca. 15 cm long. Drupelets black, with 5-10 on a fleshy, red disc. Occasional in Mora and secondary forest. The wood is used for house frames (runners, beams).
(1) The Creole name is a translation of the Carib name.

Sauvagesia erecta L. subsp. **erecta** **OCHNACEAE**
Tama'ure (C).
Small, creeping herb to 30 cm high. Stipules fimbriate. Flowers small, white, axillary. Stamens pink. Common in pastures, weed in cultivated fields. The whole plant is boiled with sugar into a syrup for colds.

Ludwigia nervosa (Poir.) Hara **ONAGRACEAE**
Shrub to 2 m tall. Stem reddish. Leaves elliptic. Flowers yellow, large, solitary in leaf axils. Filaments curled, white, anthers yellow. Fruit dehiscent. Abundant in flooded savanna and mokomoko riverbank vegetation, Moruca. The twigs are used by children to string fish.

Ludwigia torulosa (Arnott) Hara **ONAGRACEAE**
Wild senna, Johnny winter (Cr).
Shrub to 2 m tall. Rhizome covered with pink, spongy tissue. Stem woody, reddish. Leaves elliptic. Flowers small, cream, stamens and stigma yellow. Young fruits crowned by reddish calyx. In frequently burned and flooded savanna, Moruca. Children use the twigs to string fish and the stems as fishing rods.

Brassia verrucosa Lindl. **ORCHIDACEAE**
Epiphyte. Leaf base bulbous. Petals narrowly elongate, green with brown spots, centre white and yellow. In mangrove forest. The whole plant is taken from the forest and planted on fruit trees as ornamental. At Christmas, living orchids are sold on regional markets for up to US$ 20.

Catasetum sp. TVA1927 **ORCHIDACEAE**
Baboon goggle (Cr).
Epiphyte. Pseudobulbs large, thick. Leaves thin, plicate. Flowers unisexual, stiff, green, some petals brown spotted, lip cup-shaped. In secondary forest and orchards. The plant is taken from the forest and planted on fruit trees as ornamental. At Christmas, living orchids are sold on regional markets for up to US$ 20.

Encyclia diurna (Jacq.) Schltr. **ORCHIDACEAE**
Silver shower (Cr).
Large epiphyte. Pseudobulbs small. Leaves erect, elongated, stiff. Inflorescence ca. 1 m long. Flowers showy, silvery greenish yellow, white and yellow inside, sweet-scented. In flooded savanna. The plant is taken from the forest and planted on fruit trees as ornamental. At Christmas, living orchids are sold on regional markets.

Epidendrum anceps Jacq. **ORCHIDACEAE**
Epiphyte. Leaves small, narrowly oblong, thick, borne on reed-like stems. Inflorescence terminal. Flowers green, centre yellow. In manicole swamp. The plant is taken from the forest and planted on fruit trees as ornamental.

Ionopsis utricularioides (Sw.) Lindl. **ORCHIDACEAE**
Purple orchid (Cr).
Epiphyte. Leaves small, stiff. Flowers lilac, in long, many-flowered inflorescence. In secondary vegetation and orchards, Barima. The plant is planted on fruit trees as ornamental.

Oncidium baueri Lindl. **ORCHIDACEAE**
Golden shower (Cr).
Large epiphyte. Pseudobulbs small. Inflorescence ca. 1.20 m long, many-flowered. Petals yellow with brown spots, crest white, lip flat, medially contracted. In mangrove forest. The whole plant is planted on fruit trees as ornamental. At Christmas, living orchids are sold on regional markets for up to $ 20.

Psygmorchis pusilla (L.) Dodson & Dressler **ORCHIDACEAE**
Yellow orchid (Cr).
Small epiphyte. Leaves small, leathery, fan-shaped. Flowers large, yellow, spotted with brown, lip broad. In secondary vegetation, Barima. Planted on fruit trees as ornamental.

Rodriguezia lanceolata Ruiz & Pav. **ORCHIDACEAE**
Orchid (Cr).
Epiphyte. Leaves conduplicate. Flowers pink, crest white, upper petal with yellow stripes. Sepals spurred. The whole plant is taken from the forest and planted on fruit trees as ornamental. At Christmas, living orchids are sold on regional markets for up to US$ 20.

Stanhopea grandiflora (Lodd.) Lindl. **ORCHIDACEAE**
Baboon goggle, Lady's slipper (Cr).
Epiphyte. Pseudobulbs with a single leaf. Leaves broad, ribbed, 5-veined. Flowers large, white, lip inflated, mesochile wings t-shaped. In Mora forest. The whole plant is occasionally planted on fruit trees as ornamental.

Zygosepalum labiosum (Rich.) Schweinf. **ORCHIDACEAE**
Epiphyte. Rhizome elongate between pseudobulbs. Inflorescence many-flowered. Anther cap with elongate, horn-like projection, brownish pink, lip white, centre purple. In swamp forest on pegasse, Moruca. The whole plant is taken from the forest and planted on fruit trees as ornamental. At Christmas, living orchids are sold on regional markets for up to US$ 20.

Bactris campestris Poepp. ex Mart. **PALMAE**
Masoa plimpla (Ar), Warauyuroko, Imiritokon (Ar), Ibase bara, Hi arau (Wr).
Clustered palm to 6 m, to 15 trunks together. Spines flat, black. Leaves pinnate, ca. 1 m long. Infructescence pendent, ca. 15 cm long. Spathe densely spiny. Drupe orange-red, ca. 0.8 cm in diam. Common in quackal swamp forest. Blowpipes are occasionally made by letting the trunk rot in water for some weeks, and removing the pith and spines. The darts are made of sharpened kokerite pointers (*Maximiliana maripa*), with a ball of cotton at one end.

Bactris major Jacq. **PALMAE**
Masoa plimpla (Cr), Maswa, Samura (Ar), Amara-u (C), Hi arau (Wr).
Clustered palm to 5 m tall. Spines flattened, black. Leaves finely pinnate, ca. 1 m long, light green. Spathe densely armed. Drupe ovoid, dark brown, ca. 5 x 4 cm, mesocarp fibrous, pink. In mangrove forest, Waini. The sour mesocarp is eaten, mostly by children. The seeds of unripe fruits are cut open to eat the grey jelly inside.

Bactris oligoclada Burret **PALMAE**
Plimpla seed, White seed, Sourie (Cr), Kidale banaro[1] (Ar), Asako, Kasaku (C), Hi arau (Wr).
Prickly palm to 2 m tall. Leaves ca. 1.5 m long. Spines soft, flat, black. Infructescence at stem base. Spathe armed. Drupe small, globose, ca. 1.5 cm, fleshy, greenish white to orange. In Mora and mixed forest. The white, juicy, and very acid immature fruits are eaten, mostly by children. The seeds are cut open to eat the jelly inside. The fruits are believed to be the favoured food of the kenaima spirit.
(1) 'Calabash leaves', after the convex pinnae (Fanshawe, 1949).

Bactris simplicifrons Mart. **PALMAE**
Turtle paripi[1] (Cr), Hikuri paripia (Ar), Wayamu paripiri (C).
Almost unarmed, clustered palm to 2 m tall. Spathe ca. 5 cm. long. Drupe globose, ca. 0.8 cm in diam., greenish yellow to orange and finally red. In the understorey of Mora forest. The fruits are eaten, mostly by children.
(1) The Creole name is a translation of the indigenous names.

Desmoncus orthoacanthos Mart. **PALMAE**
Big kamwari (Cr), Kamwari, Weheyu (Ar), Alakule (C), Hi yoron (Wr).
Vigorously climbing palm. Stem heavily armed. Leaves with recurved hooks at apex. Infructescence large. Drupe scarlet, fleshy. Seed 1, black. In secondary forest and swamp forest on pegasse, Moruca. The mesocarp and jelly inside the seeds is edible. The fruits are put on a hook or placed as bait in fish traps. The fibrous stem core is occasionally used as binding material.

Geonoma maxima (Poit.) Kunth **PALMAE**
Hill dhalebana (Cr), Dhalebana (Ar), Isyuruwari (C).
Small, unarmed palm to 2 m tall. Stem cane-like, with few basal shoots. Spadix axillary, green, orange in fruit. Berry yellowish green, ca. 1 cm in diam. Rare in mixed forest, Barama. The leaves serve occasionally as roof thatch, as substitute for swamp dhalebana (*Geonoma baculifera*). Leaves must be dried in the sun first. Hill dhalebana roofs are of good quality, but the species is scarce and thus seldom used.

Geonoma sp. TVA1069 **PALMAE**
Haimara tail (Cr), Aimara andïkïrï (C).
Acaulescent palm, ca. 1 m tall. Leaves bifid to one third from the apex. Occasional in Mora swamp. The leaves are used as wrapping material and to protect goods from rain.

Socratea exorrhiza (Mart.) H. Wendl. **PALMAE**
Buba (Cr), Boba (Ar), Pasï-ï (C).
Solitary, unarmed palm, with armed stilt roots. Leaves pinnate. Spadices ca. 12 cm long, densely brown tomentose. Drupe ca. 3 x 2 cm, brown. Rare in mixed forest. In Barama, the trunk is split and made into resilient walls, floors and gutters for small-scale gold mining. The leaves are used to thatch forest camps, to camouflage animal traps, and as hat by children. Bows are occasionally made from the wood.

Passiflora coccinea Aubl. **PASSIFLORACEAE**
Semitoo (Cr), Marudi yure[1] (Ar), Sokosoko (C).
Liana. Leaves entire. Bracts large, ovate, convex, bright red. Flowers showy, large, red. Fruiting sepals ca. 4 cm. long. Berry orange or yellow, to 6 cm in diam. Common in secondary shrubland and abandoned fields. The fruit pulp is edible.
(1) 'Marudi throat', after the scarlet bracts of the liana resembling the throat of this bird (Fanshawe, 1949).

Passiflora garckei Mast. **PASSIFLORACEAE**
Semitoo (Cr).
Herbaceous vine. Leaves subpeltate, 3-lobed, grey below, veins red. Flowers blue or purplish, ca. 8 cm wide. Berry green, ellipsoid, ca. 4 cm in diam. Occasional in manicole swamp, Assakata. The fruit pulp is edible.

Passiflora glandulosa Cav. **PASSIFLORACEAE**
Wild semitoo (Cr), Querimo (Sp), Bimiti tokon[1] (Ar), Karawiru (C), Boyabamu (Wr).
Herbaceous vine. Leaves entire, deciduous during flowering. Flowers bright red. Berry ovoid, leathery, ca. 6 x 3 cm, green to deep red. In secondary forest, Waini. The fruit pulp is edible. Warao believe that people holding or playing with the fruit are alcoholics.
(1) The Arawak name means 'hummingbird food' (Fanshawe, 1949).

Passiflora laurifolia L. **PASSIFLORACEAE**
Bell apple semitoo, Aligator rope, Worm bush (Cr), Shimito, Semetho[1] (Ar), Sosoporo (C).
Liana. Leaves entire. Flowers mostly solitary, pale yellow, reddish inside. Fruiting calyx to 4 cm long. Berry orange-yellow, ca. 7 x 4 cm, weakly 3-ribbed. Occasional in manicole swamp, locally cultivated for its edible fruits. A tea from the leaves is drunk against intestinal worms. Leaves are sold at the Georgetown herbal market.
(1) The Arawak name means 'the sweet one' (Bennet, 1994).

Passiflora nitida Kunth **PASSIFLORACEAE**
Semitoo (Cr), Semetho, Merekuya (Ar), Mïrehkuya (C).
Herbaceous vine or subwoody liana. Leaves entire. Flowers large, axillary, petals white, staminodial ring bright purple, curly, stamens and style white. Berry yellow, ca. 7 x 5 cm. Occasional in secondary forest, locally cultivated for its sweet, edible fruits. A tea from the vine is drunk for stomach swelling.

Passiflora quadriglandulosa Rodschied **PASSIFLORACEAE**
Wild semitoo (Cr).
Delicate vine. Leaves entire or slightly lobed. Flowers large, bright pink. Staminodial ring alternating red and white. Berry ovoid, ca. 4 x 3 cm., green with white spots. In riverbank Mora forest. The fruit pulp is edible.

Passiflora sp. TVA2651 **PASSIFLORACEAE**
Semitoo (Cr).
Vine. Leaves entire, margins slightly dentate. Petiole with two circular glands. Flowers not seen. Berry black, ca. 1 cm in diam. In mangrove forest, Barima. The grey fruit pulp is sweet and edible.

Microtea debilis Sw. **PHYTOLACCACEAE**
Flat-on-the-earth (Cr), Semechi wadzili (Ar).
Annual herb to 45 cm high. Leaves alternate, spirally arranged. Flowers small, white, in lax, terminal, spike-like racemes. Fruit globose, green, with spine-like tubercles. In pastures and open vegetation, spared from weeding in house yards. A tea from the leaves is drunk for colds and given to babies for thrush and fever. In Georgetown, the tea is drunk for heart problems and to 'cool down' inflamed areas. Sold at the Georgetown herbal market.

Petiveria alliacea L. **PHYTOLACCACEAE**

Fever tree, Gully root, Bird vine (Cr), Halichiballi (Ar), Ararau amutu (Wr).

Deeply rooted shrub to 1 m tall. Leaves alternate, spirally arranged, with strong garlic odour. Flowers white, in long, slender spikes. Fruit green, with two sharp bristles. In weedy areas, sometimes cultivated in the interior. The leaves are macerated, mixed with coconut oil, and rubbed on the body to ease down fever. A tea from the whole plant is taken for colds, stomach ache, high blood pressure, and as laxative. Sold at the Georgetown herbal market.

Phytolacca rivinoides Kunth & Bouché **PHYTOLACCACEAE**

Deer callaloo, Callaloo (Cr), Karuru (C).

Fleshy herb to 2 m high. Leaves alternate. Flowers white, in lax, terminal racemes, rachis bright pink. Fruit fleshy, depressed, black. Common as weed in cultivated and abandoned fields. The leaves are cooked as vegetable.

Peperomia rotundifolia (L.) Kunth **PIPERACEAE**

Follow me (Cr).

Delicate, creeping vine. Leaves very small, lens-shaped, succulent. Flowers greenish white, in slender spikes. On tree trunks and fallen logs, in mixed and swamp forest. The vine is boiled and drunk as tea, just as a beverage. A love charm is made by mixing the pounded leaves with perfume and rubbing this on the body. The beloved one will now follow this person everywhere.

Piper avellanum (Miq.) C. DC. **PIPERACEAE**

Warakaba bush (Cr), Warakaba koro (Ar), Akami pupuru[1] (C).

Shrub with thickened joints. Leaves with pepper scent. Flowers white, in leaf-opposed spikes. In disturbed Mora swamp and secondary forest, spared from weeding in house yards. The sap of the macerated leaves is drunk for snakebites. The medicine is said to be particularly effective for labaria bites. The sap of heated leaves is also given to people loosing consciousness when suffering from severe jaw and stomach cramps. The plant was repeatedly mentioned to have saved lives.

(1) 'Warakaba leg', after the nodes in the stem resembling the knees of the trumpet bird.

Piper vs. **berbicense** Miq. **PIPERACEAE**

Warakaba joint (Cr), Warakaba koro (Ar).

Shrub ca. 2 m tall, with thickened joints. Leaves with pepper scent. Flowers in leaf-opposed spikes. In manicole swamp, Assakata. The leaves are briefly heated or macerated between the hands. The sap is drunk for snakebites, and the crushed leaves are applied to the bite.

Piper cf. **glabrescens** (Miq.) C. DC. **PIPERACEAE**

Warakaba (Cr), Warakaba koro (Ar).

Shrub with thickened joints. Leaves with slight pepper scent. Flowers in small, green, leaf-opposed spikes. In secondary forest, Moruca. For snakebite, the leaves are crushed and squeezed. The sap is drunk with a pinch of salt and the macerated leaves are applied to the bite.

Piper cf. **hostmannianum** (Miq.) DC. **PIPERACEAE**

Warakaba bush, Snake bush (Cr), Warakabina (Ar), Yarakaru emurutano[1], To'na to'nakeng[2] (C).

Scrambling shrub with thickened joints. Stem dark green. Young leaves puberulous, veins reddish below. Infructescence to 12 cm long. In secondary forest and as weed in cultivated fields. For scorpion bites or labaria or bushmaster attacks, the sap from heated leaves is squeezed and drunk with a pinch of salt. The crushed leaves or stem scrapings are applied to the bite. The poultice is said to draw out the poison.

(1) The Carib name means 'monkey testicles'; (1) 'Stem with many knots'.

Piper nigrispicum C. DC. **PIPERACEAE**
Warakaba joint, Trumpet bird (Cr), Warakaba koro (Ar), To'na to'nakeng (C).
Shrub, ca. 2 m tall, with thickened joints. Flowers in small, in leaf-opposed spikes. In secondary forest and manicole swamp. For snakebites, the salted sap from heated leaves is squeezed and drunk. The crushed leaves are applied to the bite.

Piper sp. TVA2666 **PIPERACEAE**
Warakaba bush (Cr), Warakaba koro (Ar), Warakaba daroko (Wr).
Small shrub with thickened joints. In understorey of secondary forest, Waini. The leaves are boiled or crushed in water, and drunk for labaria and other snakebites, scorpion bites, and stomach ache.

Coccoloba densifrons Mart. ex Meisn. **POLYGONACEAE**
Wild grape, Blauwtu[1], Swamp masari (Cr), Masari (Ar), Etaburu akwaha (Wr).
Shrub to 2.5 m high. Stipules encircling the stem, leaving a ring-like scar. Fruit a nut, enclosed by blue-black perianth which becomes enlarged and succulent. In swamp forest on pegasse. The fruits are eaten. The juice stains mouth and tongue blue. A tea from a little bark is drunk for diarrhoea.
(1) This name has a Dutch origin, referring to the blue colour of the fruit.

Coccoloba marginata Benth. **POLYGONACEAE**
Wild grape, Blauwtu (Cr), Masari (Ar).
Scrambling shrub. Stipules large, truncate, leaving a ring-like scar. Leaves leathery Fruiting perianth reddish brown to black. In secondary forest along roads, Moruca. The fruits are eaten. The pulp is sweet, but dry and astringent and stains mouth and tongue blue. A tea from small quantities of bark is drunk for diarrhoea.

Polypodium adnatum Kunze ex Klotzsch **POLYPODIACEAE**
Fine type baboon plimpla (Cr).
Epiphytic fern. Rhizomes creeping, covered with brown scales. Fronds few, widely separated, pinnate. Pinnae elliptic, acuminate. Sori round, at ends of veinlets. In manicole swamp, Assakata. The rhizome is scraped, boiled or crushed, mixed with soft grease or salt, and taken orally for whooping cough.

Quiina indigofera Sandw. **QUIINACEAE**
Velvet seeds tree (Cr), Mamuriballi, Okokonshi (Ar), Arawuya (C), Kokonshi (Wr).
Medium-sized tree. Leaves large, opposite. Stipules large, leaflike. Berry yellowish orange, conical, finely ribbed, fleshy, ca. 5 cm long, with repulsive smell. In mixed and secondary forest. The wood is strong, flexible and long-lasting, and used for house construction, warishi frames, and arrow sockets.

Rapatea paludosa Aubl. var. **paludosa** **RAPATEACEAE**
Yellow lily (Cr), Katuburi (Ar).
Large, perennial herb to 1 m high. Leaves linear, erect. Inflorescence a head subtended by two leaflike bracts. Calyx straw-coloured, corolla yellow, embedded in transparent jelly. Forming dense stands in swamp forest on pegasse. Leaves are occasionally used to thatch forest camps, by tightly folding bundles of leaves over the rafters. The jelly from the inflorescence and leaf base is rubbed in the hair as gel. It is also said to prevent baldness.

Amaioua corymbosa Kunth **RUBIACEAE**
Wayu, Wa-yung (C).
Small tree. Leaves opposite, clustered at branch ends. Stipules large, yellow tomentose, caducous. Berry dark red to purple, hairy. Occasional in mixed forest, Barama. The fruits are eaten and much appreciated, but the tree is said to fruit only once every five years.

Amaioua guianensis Aubl. **RUBIACEAE**
Komaramara balli[1] (Ar), Kapasi tuno (C).
Small tree. Outer bark brown, inner bark red, wood yellowish. Leaves opposite, clustered at branch ends. Stipules hairy, united in a conical deciduous cap. Flowers in sessile umbels. Berry ovoid, purple-brown, glabrous. Occasional in mixed forest, Barama. The fruits are edible. The wood is occasionally used for house construction, rafts, and firewood.
(1) The Arawak name implies that the species looks like *Duroia eriopila* (Fanshawe, 1949).

Duroia eriopila L.f. var. **eriopila** **RUBIACEAE**
Green asepoko (Cr), Maramara, Komaramara (Ar), Wayamu worekotopo[1] (C).
Small tree. Leaves opposite, clustered at branch ends. Twigs, stipules, and young leaves hairy. Berry green to yellow, sessile, globose, hairy. Common in swamp forest on pegasse, rare in Mora forest. The brown, starchy fruit pulp looks as if it is rotten, but it is edible and sweet.
(1) 'Turtle gets angry', because the brown fruit pulp always looks rotten.

Faramea aff. **guianensis** (Aubl.) Brem. (poss. sp. nov.) **RUBIACEAE**
Shrub. Leaves opposite, papery, puberulous below. Twigs flattened at nodes. Stipules large, narrowly triangular. Drupe sessile, black, crowned persistent calyx. In mixed and secondary forest. The berries are edible.

Genipa spruceana Steyerm. **RUBIACEAE**
Wild guava, Lana tree (Cr), Lana (Ar).
Gnarled tree. Twigs brittle. Leaves opposite, rolled inwards when young. Stipules triangular. Flowers in cymes. Berry globose or ovoid, glabrous, ca. 6 x 4 cm. In flooded savanna, Barima. The fruit is broken into pieces and used as fish bait, or thrown directly in the water to attract fish.

Geophila repens (L.) I.M. Johnst. **RUBIACEAE**
Wild pepper (Cr), Sirimya watï (C).
Delicate, creeping herb, rooting from the nodes. Leaves cordate, covered with short, sticky, white hairs when young. Stipules broadly triangular. Petioles purple. Berry bright orange, juicy. On fallen tree trunks in Mora forest, Barama. The juice of the berries is rubbed on the skin to treat lota, a common skin fungus.

Gonzalagunia dicocca Cham. & Schltdl. **RUBIACEAE**
Shrub to 4 m tall. Leaves opposite, veins red below. Petioles red. Stipules triangular, acuminate. Flowers white, small, in long, terminal, puberulous spikes. Drupe small, purple-blue. Common in riverbank Mora forest, Barama. The watery fruits are edible, but are consumed only by small children.

Posoqueria longiflora Aubl. **RUBIACEAE**
Bat food, Wild pawpaw (Cr), Kamadan[1] (Ar), Ambaoke, Kapaya watï[2] (C), Sa anahoro[3] (Wr).
Shrub or small tree to 8 m tall. Leaves opposite, folded together when young. Stipules large, caducous. Flowers trumpet-shaped, white, ca. 20 cm long. Fruit large, green to orange. Common in secondary forest. In Moruca, the twigs are used to make wicker kitchen walls. People believe that if a bat drops a fruit close to a house, somebody in that house is pregnant.
(1) 'Tapir tree', as this animal eats the fruits (Fanshawe, 1949); (2) 'Just like pawpaw'; (3) 'Bat food'.

Psychotria bahiensis DC. var. **cornigera** (Benth.) Steyerm. **RUBIACEAE**
Sakusaku (C).
Shrub to 3 m tall. Leaves opposite. Fruiting corymbs reddish purple. Drupe subsessile, 2-lobed, crowned by calyx, spongy, juicy, green to bluish black. Common in Mora forest. The fruits are eaten by small children.

Psychotria poeppigiana Müll. Arg. var. **barcellana** (Müll. Arg.) Steyerm. **RUBIACEAE**
Wild poppy, Butterfly food, Soldier's cap (Cr), Parangbarang wokuru[1] (C).
Shrub to 1.5 m tall. Leaves opposite, hairy above, glabrous below. Flowers yellow. Inflorescence with two large, shiny, red bracts. Berry blue, spongy. Common in secondary and disturbed primary forest. Three branches with leaves and flowers or a handful of flowers are boiled and drunk for colds, cough, and tuberculosis. Leaves are boiled with granny backbone wood (*Curarea candicans*) and fire ashes. A warm cupful is drunk at midnight to stop menstrual bleeding.
(1) 'Butterfly drink', after the blue morpho butterflies visiting the flowers.

Psychotria racemosa Rich. **RUBIACEAE**
Shrub or small tree to 4 m tall. Fruiting panicles terminal. Drupe orange, depressed globose, sessile, somewhat 5-lobed. In disturbed primary forest. During Christmas, people use the fruiting branches to decorate the church.

Uncaria guianensis (Aubl.) J.F. Gmel. **RUBIACEAE**
Parrot beak (Cr), Burio bada (Ar), Panapana (C).
High-climbing liana. Stem containing cool, clear water. Branches with recurved spines. Leaves opposite. Umbels globose, with long peduncles. Capsule fusiform, woody. Abundant in riverbank Mora forest and secondary shrubland, Barama. The leaves are boiled and the tea is taken for colds and tuberculosis.

Zanthoxylum rhoifolium Lam. **RUTACEAE**
Breadwood (Cr), Sada (Ar).
Small tree. Trunk yellowish brown, with woody spines. Leaves 5-7-foliolate, clustered at branch ends. Flowers greenish white, in terminal panicles. Capsule pear-shaped. Occasional in secondary forest. The soft wood is locally sawn into boards.

Zanthoxylum sp. TVA648 **RUTACEAE**
Sadawood (Cr), Sada (Ar), Kïya (C).
Large tree. Trunk with thick, sharp, woody spines. Outer bark green, inner bark and wood yellow. Leaves large, ca. 1 m long, swollen at base, with a repulsive smell. In secondary forest, Barama. The wood is locally sawn into boards and used for large wooden ballahoos, walls, floors, and house construction.

Allophylus racemosus Sw. **SAPINDACEAE**
Karishiri, Kulishiri (Ar).
Small tree. Outer bark red-brown, inner bark orange, wood white. Twigs rusty brown. Leaves imparipinnate. Inflorescence axillary. In quackal swamp forest. The young trunks are plaited into wicker kitchen walls.

Cupania hirsuta Radlk. **SAPINDACEAE**
Wattle tree, Ants wood (Cr), Karishiri, Kulishiri (Ar), Tohmopara (C).
Small tree. Branches grooved, brown puberulous. Leaves 6-10-foliolate, hirsute below, margins serrate. Capsule orange brown puberulous, 3-4-lobed. Seed with yellow aril. Common in secondary forest. The young trunks are plaited into wicker kitchen walls. The wood is used for firewood.

Cupania scrobiculata Rich. var. **reticulata** (Camb.) Radlk. **SAPINDACEAE**
Deerfoot, Wattle stick, Bread tree, Bread and cheese, Hammock wood (Cr), Caña venao[1] (Sp), Karishiri, Kulishiri (Ar), Tohmopara (C), Dau bahi bahi[2] (Wr).
Tree to 10 m tall. Branches ribbed, rusty puberulous. Leaves 6-8-foliolate. Flowers in terminal, rusty puberulous panicles. Capsule 3-lobed, wrinkled, greenish yellow. Abundant in mixed and secondary forest. The yellow spongy aril around the seeds resembles cheese and is edible. Young trunks are stripped from their bark and plaited into wicker kitchen walls. Straight trunks are used as upright poles to weave hammocks. The wood is favoured as firewood for cassava baking and sold for this purpose in larger Amerindian villages. (1) 'Deer cane', as the ribbed twigs resemble deer legs; (2) The Warao name means 'wood growing like a spring'.

Matayba camptoneura Radlk. **SAPINDACEAE**
Karishiri, Kulishiri (Ar), Tupuru tonoropio (C).
Tree to 12 m tall. Branches reddish. Leaves 4-foliolate, leathery. Flowering panicles tomentose, ca. 20 cm long. Capsule 3-lobed, red, valves fleshy. In secondary forest, Moruca. The young trunks are plaited into wicker kitchen walls and house frames.

Paullinia capreolata (Aubl.) Radlk. **SAPINDACEAE**
Kutupurang (C).
Woody climber with tendrils. Leaves 5-foliolate, puberulous below, rachis grooved, not winged. Racemes axillary, puberulous. Capsule greenish orange, tomentose. In Mora and mixed forest. The sap from heated and macerated leaves is squeezed in cuts, sores, and used to disinfect the umbilical cord of newborn babies. The leaves are kept at hand when a baby is being born. An infusion or tea from bark scrapings is used to disinfect skin sores.

Paullinia pinnata L. **SAPINDACEAE**
Rat eye (Cr), Yesi kushi (Ar), Kutupurang (C).
Woody climber. Leaves 5-foliolate, rachis winged. Flowers white, in slender racemes. Capsule 5-lobed, cherry red. Seeds black, aril white. Common in riverbank Mora forest, Barama. The dry aril is eaten by children.

Serjania paucidentata DC. **SAPINDACEAE**
Old man's back, Granny backbone, Sugar baby (Cr), Kashiri, Aboho, Hebechi abo[1] (Ar), Kutupuru (C).
Liana with triangular stem. Leaves biternate. Flowers white, with yellow centre, sweet-scented, in large panicles. Schizocarp winged, yellow to red. Occasional in secondary forest, Moruca. The stem is pounded and soaked in a creek or pond to poison fish. A tea from the leaves are given to babies for thrush. The stem is chopped into pieces, boiled and drunk to cure male impotence ('weak back'), in mixtures similar to those of *Curarea candicans* (also called granny backbone). The wood is sold at the Georgetown herbal market under this name.
(1) 'Old man's backbone', after the triangular stem (Fanshawe, 1949).

Talisia cf. **guianensis** Aubl. **SAPINDACEAE**
Sand mora (Cr), Moraballi, Moroballi (Ar), Wa-u (C).
Small tree. Leaves 10-30-foliolate. Panicles in upper leaf axils, light brown hirsute. Berry 3-angled when young, ellipsoid when ripe, yellow. Rare in mixed and secondary forest. The bark and wood are said to be extremely poisonous and can be used as fish poison. Throwing wood chips in a creek would turn the water pitch-black and instantly kill the fish. The guts, scales, and skin of the fish should quickly be removed and the flesh thoroughly cleaned with lime to avoid digesting the poison. Although used more commonly in the past, people are now reluctant to use these species. The wood is considered too poisonous for housing or firewood.

Talisia hexaphylla Vahl **SAPINDACEAE**
Sand mora (Cr), Moraballi, Moroballi (Ar), Wa-u (C).
Tree, ca. 20 m tall, with buttresses. Outer bark brown, lenticellate, inner bark orange brown. Leaves paripinnate, brown puberulous when young. Berry juicy. Rare in mixed forest. The wood is said to be extremely poisonous and is used as fish poison. Throwing wood chips in a creek would turn the water black and instantly kill the fish. The guts, scales, and skin of the fish should quickly be removed and the flesh thoroughly cleaned with lime to avoid digesting the poison. The wood is too poisonous for firewood or construction.

Sapindaceae sp. TVA3056 **SAPINDACEAE**
Large woody climber. Inner bark pink, wood yellow, with sticky exudate. No leaves observed. Rare in manicole swamp, Assakata. Pieces of the heavy wooden stem are cut off and put as weight in bamboo fish traps.

Sapindaceae sp. TVA1240 **SAPINDACEAE**
Bread and cheese liana (Cr), Pïrïka (C).
Woody climber with characteristic wood pattern. Wood sweet-scented. No leaves observed. Rare in secondary forest, Barama. The fruits are said to be edible and resembling those of *Tetragastris altissima*.

Chrysophyllum argenteum Jacq. subsp. **auratum** (Miq.) T.D. Penn. **SAPOTACEAE**
Wild starapple (Cr), Sürürü burue[1] (Ar), Kameri, Karu merei (C).
Medium-sized tree. Little white latex. Leaves golden puberulous. Flowers small, in axillary, rusty tomentose fascicles. Berry shiny, reddish purple. Frequent in Mora riverbank forest, Barama. The sweet fruits are edible.
(1) The Arawak name means 'bulletwood of the black marmoset' (*Tamarin midas*) (Fanshawe, 1949).

Chrysophyllum sanguinolentum (Pierre) Baehni **SAPOTACEAE**
Ubudiballi (Ar).
Tree, ca. 10 m tall. Outer bark smooth, inner bark orange. Little white, sweet latex. Branches light brown puberulous. Berry fleshy. Occasional in mixed forest, Moruca. The wood is used for paddles.

Micropholis venulosa (Mart. & Eichler) Pierre **SAPOTACEAE**
Swamp letterwood, Smoothskin tauroniro (Cr), Dukuria, Kudibiu shi (Ar), Wokopopi[1] (C).
Tree to 35 m tall. Leaves small, with fine secondary veins. Little white latex. Flowers in axillary, reddish brown puberulous fascicles. Berry ellipsoid, yellow. In mixed forest and manicole swamp. The sticky fruits are sweet, but slightly astringent. The wood is used for boards, walking sticks, and firewood.
(1) 'Powis beak', after the fruits resembling the yellow beak of this forest bird.

Pouteria bilocularis (Winkler) Baehni **SAPOTACEAE**
Fine leaf haimara eye (Cr), Aiomora kushi[1] (Ar).
Medium-sized tree. Outer bark red-brown, rough, inner bark orange, wood white. Latex white. Berry green to yellow, turning orange when ripe. Occasional in mixed forest. The sweet fruits are edible.
(1) The Arawak name means 'haimara eye' (Fanshawe, 1949).

Pouteria caimito (Ruiz & Pav.) Radlk. **SAPOTACEAE**
Haimara eye (Cr), Aiomora kushi, Essepoko (Ar), Atakamara, Kosiri paratare (C).
Medium-sized tree. Leaves small, clustered at branch ends. Flowers solitary, or in small fascicles on leafless twigs. Berry globose, yellow, with white latex. Occasional in mixed forest, sometimes spared from cutting around villages. The fruits are edible, sweet and much esteemed.

Pouteria cf. **coriacea** (Pierre) Pierre **SAPOTACEAE**
Haimara eye (Cr), Aiomora kushi (Ar).
Tree, ca. 15 m tall, with small buttresses. Outer bark smooth, brown, inner bark red, wood turning dark orange after exposure. Latex white. Berry purple. Occasional in mixed forest. The fruits are edible, sweet and much esteemed.

Pouteria cuspidata (A. DC.) Baehni **SAPOTACEAE**
Wild starapple (Cr), Kokoritiballi (Ar).
Large tree with small buttresses. Outer bark flaky, red, inner bark pink, wood white. Latex white, sweet. Leaves leathery, grey below. Berry yellow. In swamp forest on pegasse. The fruits are edible and sweet. The wood is strong and used for house posts and boards.

Pouteria durlandii (Standl.) Baehni **SAPOTACEAE**
Bartaballi, Asepoko (Ar).
Tree to 20 m, with buttresses. Outer bark dark brown, flaky, inner bark reddish. Latex little, white. Flowers small, greenish white, in fascicles on branches. Berry yellow, ca. 3 cm in diam. In mixed forest, Moruca. The fruits are edible and sweet. Axe handles and paddles are carved from the buttresses.

Pouteria hispida Eyma **SAPOTACEAE**
Fine leaf asepoko, Black asepoko (Cr), Asepoko (Ar), Tuwonure (C).
Large tree. Trunk fluted. White latex. Outer bark grey, flaky, inner bark pink, wood yellow. Berry small, yellow, sticky. In mixed forest. The sweet fruits are edible. Axe handles are carved from the butresses.

Pouteria venosa (Mart.) Baehni subsp. **amazonica** T.D. Penn. **SAPOTACEAE**
Haimara eye (Cr), Kamahora, Aiomora kushi (Ar).
Tree, ca. 20 m tall. Little white latex. Outer bark dark brown, inner bark pink, wood yellow. Leaves obovate. Flowers large. Berry purple-brown, furry. In secondary forest, Moruca. The fruits are edible, sweet and much esteemed. The tree is said to fruit only once every few years.

Pouteria sp. TVA2613 **SAPOTACEAE**
Baboon goggle (Cr).
Medium-sized tree. Little white latex. Inner bark reddish. Berry ca. 5 cm diam., green-ferruginous, pulp bright yellow, starchy. In mixed forest. The fruits are edible. Axe handles are carved from the buttresses.

Pradosia schomburgkiana (A.DC.) Cronq. subsp. **schomburgkiana** **SAPOTACEAE**
Redwood, Coughwood, Wild liquorice (Cr), Kakarawa (Ar, Wr).
Large tree. Latex little, white. Outer bark light brown, scaly, inner bark pinkish orange, wood white. Leaves leathery. Young branches rusty brown. Flowers produced from main branches. Drupe fleshy. Frequent in quackal swamp forest. The sweet latex can be sucked from the tree. The milky bark is made into a sweet tea or boiled with cassava starch into a cough syrup. The bark tea is drunk for tuberculosis and heavy chest colds. The bark is boiled with rose of the mountain bark (*Brownea latifolia*), or with wild maran (*Pityrogramma calomelanos*), wild semitoo (*Passiflora foetida*), mokomoko leaves (*Montrichardia arborescens*), and crapeaud pepper (*Physalis pubescens*). It should be drunk regularly until the tuberculosis has ended. The bark is said to be very effective, and is sold occasionally in Moruca for US$ 7 a rice bag.

Lygodium volubile Sw. **SCHIZAEACEAE**
Rank bush (Cr), Hebu ahomakaba[1] (Wr).
Climbing fern. Rhizomes short-creeping, branched, with black scales. Fronds in tufts, to 10 m long. Pinnae with serrate margins. Sporangia on marginal lobes of ultimate segments. Common in secondary shrubland. A spoonful of the sap from crushed leaves, sometimes diluted in water, is given with a pinch of salt to babies for thrush. A herbal bath with the smelly leaves chases away bad spirits troubling the child and causing the thrush. It also helps against skin rash and itches. A tea from the leaves is drunk for back pain.
(1) The Warao name means 'jumbie smell' (spirit scent).

Capraria biflora L. **SCROPHULARIACEAE**
Wild tea, Nigger broom, Bhuyara (Cr), Fregosa (Sp), Simerodan (Ar).
Erect, bushy herb to 1.5 m high. Leaves pilose, serrate, with repulsive smell. Flowers small, white, on slender pedicels in leaf axils. Capsule with persistent style. In secondary shrubland and ditches, cultivated in Moruca house yards. For gallstones, four branches are boiled in three pints of water and drunk three times a day.

Scoparia dulcis L. **SCROPHULARIACEAE**

Sweet broom (Cr), Shibero (Ar), Asokoa, Asokuwa (C), Bebe diabara (Wr).

Annual, much branched herb to 60 cm high. Leaves opposite or whorled, aromatic. Flowers white, paired in the upper axils. Capsule ovoid-globose. In pastures and open vegetation. The bitter tea from the herb is drunk to bitter the blood, to cure and prevent malaria and skin sores, for cough, colds, fever, jaundice, thrush, and as laxative. Pear leaves (*Persea americana*) are added to the tea for malaria and biliousness. For venereal diseases ('runners'), one buruburu root (*Solanum stramoniifolium*) is boiled with sweet broom, pawpaw root (*Carica papaya*) and lemongrass (*Cymbopogon citratus*). A little is drunk three times a day until the symptoms have disappeared. For heart problems, four soursop leaves (*Annona muricata*), three pear leaves and some sweet broom is boiled. Half a cup of the tea is drunk for four mornings. Sold at the Georgetown herbal market.

Selaginella parkeri (Hook. & Grev.) Spring **SELAGINELLACEAE**

Powis comb[1], Powis curly hair[1] (Cr), Hashiru kabo[2] (Ar), Wokope mirityïrï (C).

Small, terrestrial fern, to 20 cm high. Fronds dark green above, light green below, curled. Ramifications numerous. Sporophylls rigid. Common in secondary forest. In Barama, people believe that if the plant is dried over the fire and pressed softly against the heels of a young child, it will learn to walk faster.

(1) The Creole names are translations of the Carib name; (2) 'Otter paw', after the curled fronds (Fanshawe, 1949).

Simarouba amara Aubl. **SIMAROUBACEAE**

Simarupa (high bush type) (Cr), Shimarupa (Ar), Simarupa (C).

Tree to 25 m tall. Leaves glabrous, 7-21-foliolate. Flowers small, green, in terminal panicles. Drupe composed of 1-5 mericarps. Frequent in mixed and secondary forest. The soft, white wood is locally sawn into boards for walls, canoes, and guitars, but the wood is rapidly attacked by termites.

Physalis cf. **angulata** L. **SOLANACEAE**

Pap bush, Black crapeaud pepper (Cr), Shibero bime (Ar), Pomiki (C).

Herb to 1.20 m, with spreading branches. Leaves glabrous, cuneate at base, margins coarsely toothed. Flowers solitary, dull yellow, dark olive at base. Berry enclosed by enlarged calyx. Common as weed in cultivated fields. The plant is boiled and drunk against worms and as a diuretic against urinary tract problems ('stoppage of water'), for menstruation pains, and to clean out the uterus. The decoction is used as bath against shingles or 'snake skin disease', an illness in which the skin becomes flaky and peels off. Sold at the Georgetown market.

Solanum subinerme Jacq. **SOLANACEAE**

Kuwasisyeng (C).

Shrub to 4 m tall. Stem and leaves armed with curved thorns. Flowers purple, in short, scorpoid cymes. Stamens yellow. Berry green, glabrous. Common in secondary shrubland and as weed in cultivated fields. For general body pain the leaves are pounded, mixed with coconut oil and applied to the hurting spot. The whole plant, with root, stem, and leaves, is boiled with some sugar and drunk against malaria and fever.

Herrania kanukuensis R.E. Schult. **STERCULIACEAE**

Wild apple, Wild cocoa (Cr), Akao (C).

Unbranched tree to 8 m tall. Leaves lobed, golden brown puberulous when young. Inflorescence produced from the main trunk. Capsule green, tomentose, woody, ca. 9 x 5 cm, ribbed. Rare in Mora and secondary forest, Barama. The white fruit pulp is very sweet and popular. The tree is occasionally planted in house yards.

Sterculia rugosa R. Br. **STERCULIACEAE**

Rough leaf maho, Slimy maho (Cr), Maho (Ar), Omose (C).

Tree to 35 m tall. Twigs stout, densely hairy when young. Leaves entire, clustered at branch ends, 3-lobed when young. Fruit large, composed of 1-5 woody follicles. Occasional in Mora and mixed forest. The fresh bark strips are used for lashing material, but their quality is inferior to those of real maho

(*Sterculia pruriens*). The wood is a commercial timber. The black seeds are cut open to consume the jelly inside.

Waltheria indica L. **STERCULIACEAE**

Velvet, Soft leaf (Cr), Haro banaro[1] (Ar).

Shrubby herb to 2 m tall. Leaves ovate, grey, velvety tomentose, margins crenate. Flowers yellow, crowded in axillary, sessile or shortly stalked inflorescences. Capsule 2-valved. Common on (white) sandy soil, sometimes spared from weeding for ornamental and medicinal purposes. A tea from the leaves is drunk for high blood pressure and colds, especially for babies. The tea is boiled with sugar into a cough syrup, and with sweet sage (*Lantana camara*), teasam (*Lippia alba*), toyeau (*Justicia pectoralis*), and tulsie (*Ocimum campechianum*) to prepare a cold medicine. For thrush, leaves are picked early in the morning, when the dew is still on the leaves. The fungus is scraped from the child's tongue and mouth with a leaf, after which the mouth is rinsed with black cassareep. The soft leaves are used as toilet paper. Sold at the Georgetown herbal market.

(1) 'Starchy leaves', from the grey pubescence (Fanshawe, 1949).

Tectaria incisa Cav. f. **vivipara** (Jenman) C.V. Morton **TECTARIACEAE**

Hassa grass (Cr), Amamai (C).

Terrestrial fern to 1 m high. Fronds monomorphic, juvenile fronds often simple, adult fronds pinnate, producing foliar buds. Sori orbicular. In secondary forest, Barama. The fern with its juvenile plants growing on the adult leaves is considered as a fertility agent for women. A tea from the leaves drunk during the menstruation will enhance the chance of becoming pregnant. The leaves are parched, ground to powder with a bottle, diluted in water and drunk as a fertility agent.

Apeiba petoumo Aubl. **TILIACEAE**

Monkey comb, Powder puff (Cr), Duru, Barudaballi (Ar), Patumu (C).

Tree to 35 m tall. Outer bark dark brown, inner bark light brown, with green bean odour. Leaves whitish puberulous below, margins slightly serrate. Capsule depressed globose, black, spiny. In disturbed primary and secondary forest. The inner bark scrapings are scraped and applied to snakebites. The soft wood rots quickly and is generally used for firewood. It is occasionally used to make low-grade canoes. Children comb their hair with the fruit for fun.

Triumfetta altheoides Lam. **TILIACEAE**

Pega pega (Sp).

Shrub. Leaves soft puberulous, margins dentate. Petiole with glands. Flowers yellow. Fruit woody, globose, with unicate spines. Common in secondary forest, Moruca. A remedy for haemorrhage is prepared by boiling the leaves as tea. Children play with the spiny fruits that stick at clothes and hair.

Trema micrantha (L.) Blume **ULMACEAE**

Parakari, Kabiukuru, Kabuya koro[1] (Ar), Kunuriye (C), Konono (Wr).

Small tree. Leaves serrate, rough. Stipules long. Flowers small, green, in axillary cymes. Drupe small, ellipsoid, green to orange-red. Common in open secondary forest, in cultivated and abandoned fields. If the tree is cut early in the morning it contains a clear sap which is dripped into sore eyes. In Barama, the wood is burned to charcoal, ground to powder and mixed with the slimy bark of maporokoñ (*Inga alba*) to form a black colorant to paint calabashes (*Crescentia cujete*).

(1) 'Something in the field', referring to its habitat (Fanshawe, 1949).

Laportea aestuans (L.) Chew **URTICACEAE**

Stinging nettle, Peruvian, Wild kunami (Cr), Warapa kunami, Yerewano epïtyï (C).

Erect, fleshy herb to 1.20 m high. Leaves serrate, with stinging bristles. Petioles reddish. Flowers very small, in axillary panicles. Fruit ca. 1 mm long. In pastures, riverbanks, and cultivated fields. For haemorrhage, a strong tea is prepared from three leaves and some grated nutmeg. A weaker tea from the same amount of leaves is given in the late afternoon to children having problems with bed-wetting. In Georgetown, the plant is boiled with zeb grass (*Tripogandra serrulata*) and drunk to bitter the blood and relieve skin rash. If the leaves of sand bitters (*Unxia camphorata*) is added, it is taken as diuretic and for biliousness. Sold at the Georgetown market.

Lantana camara L. **VERBENACEAE**
Sweet sage, Man sweet sage (Cr), Semeheyu balli[1] (Ar), Hukuhuku anakoro[2], Obo aibihi[3] (Wr).
Erect or scrambling shrub. Stems angular. Leaves opposite, aromatic, dentate. Flowers red and orange-yellow, in heads in the upper leaf axils. Drupe black. In pastures and open secondary vegetation. The leaves are boiled and drunk in the morning, just as tea, but also for colds and cough. The plant is boiled with toyeau (*Justicia pectoralis*) in a remedy against haemorrhage. In Georgetown, a tea is prepared from toyeau, sweet sage, teasam (*Lippia alba*), tulsie (*Ocimum campechianum*), and velvet (*Waltheria indica*) to make a cold medicine. A decoction of sweet sage is used to cleanse sores. Sold at the Georgetown herbal market.
(1) 'Obeiah man', after its use in magical practices (Fanshawe, 1949); (2) 'Hummingbird food'; (3) 'Cold medicine'.

Stachytarpheta cayennensis (Rich.) Vahl. **VERBENACEAE**
Bluevirr, Rat tail (Cr), Oyediballi, Shikishikidan[1] (Ar), Okoyu marakarï, Kunamiran (C).
Shrubby herb to 1 m high. Stem glabrous. Leaves crenate. Flowers small, light blue, in long, slender, terminal spikes. Fruit ca. 6 mm long. Common in pastures, often spared from weeding in Moruca house yards. A bundle of branches is boiled and drunk against malaria and diabetes. Sold at the Georgetown herbal market.
(1) The Arawak name means 'cricket tree' (Fanshawe, 1949).

Stachytarpheta jamaicensis (L.) Vahl **VERBENACEAE**
Bluevirr, Rat tail (Cr) Shikishikidan (Ar).
Shrubby herb to 1 m high. Leaves fleshy, crenate. Flowers small, deep blue-violet, in long, slender, terminal spikes. Fruit ca. 7 mm long. Common in pastures, often spared from weeding in Moruca house yards. The tea from one branch is taken for high blood pressure. The decoction is also used to disinfect skin burns, while a fresh leaf is put on the burn with a little vaseline.

Vitex compressa Turcz. **VERBENACEAE**
Black hakia (Cr), Haküyaballi, Alaso abo (Ar), Kuwa-i-yang[1] (C)
Tree to 25 m tall. Outer bark cream, inner bark brown, wood cream. Leaves digitate, 5-foliolate. Flowers purple, trumpet-shaped. Drupe globose, purple. Occasional in Mora and secondary forest. The wood is used for tool handles, bows, and firewood.
(1) The Carib name means 'resembling calabash tree'.

Vochysia cf. **guianensis** Aubl. **VOCHYSIACEAE**
Iteballi kuleru (Ar), Kuraru, Wosi wosi (C).
Tree to 35 m tall. Bark light brown, scaly. Leaves opposite. Stipules long. Flowers showy, yellow, in many-flowered panicles. Capsule cylindrical, 3-ribbed. Seeds winged. Rare in riverbank Mora forest, Barama. The bark is said to be poisonous. Inner bark scrapings are stuffed into cavities to relieve toothache and rot away the affected tooth. Care should be taken that the bark does not touch the other, healthy teeth. Along with an old Carib belief, the kenaima spirit catches his victims in spider webs rubbed with kuraru sap to make them fall in a trance.

Renealmia orinocensis Rusby **ZINGIBERACEAE**
Small warakaba food (Cr), Koruati (Ar), Akami ereparï (C).
Perennial, aromatic herb to 3 m high. Leaves distichous. Petiole and veins of leaves red. Inflorescence on separate, leafless stem, lying on forest floor. Berry red, ovoid. Seeds with bright orange aril. Common in abandoned fields and secondary forest. The leaves are used as wrapping material. The fruit pulp (seeds with arils) are put as bait in bird traps to catch large forest birds (e.g., warakaba, maam, and marudi). Berries are pounded in water and poured in the nest entrance to kill leaf cutter ants ('cushi ants'). The shoots are boiled and drunk for stomach ache.

Renealmia aff. **guianensis** Maas **ZINGIBERACEAE**
Koruati (Ar), Ini (Wr).
Perennial, aromatic herb, ca. 60 cm high. Leaves distichous. Inflorescence on separate, leafless stem, bracts dark red, corolla yellow. Berry pink to red. The rhizome is pounded and boiled in a tea to relieve back-ache, sprain, and hernia.

4. SPECIES USED FOR FIREWOOD ONLY

Vernacular names are given in Creole unless mentioned otherwise

Elaeocarpaceae	Sloanea cf. sinemariensis Aubl.	
	Sloanea sp. TVA1623	
Euphorbiaceae	Alchornea schomburgkii Klotzsch	
	Amanoa guianensis Aubl.	Kunuribi (Ar)
	Conceveiba guianensis Aubl.	Broad leaf hakia (Cr)
	Pausandra hirsuta Lanj.	
Flacourtiaceae	Casearia guianensis (Aubl.) Urban	Arekïkorang (C)
	Homalium guianense (Aubl.) Oken	Arekïkorang (C)
Hippocrateaceae	Tontelea cf. glabra A.C. Sm.	Tapanapi (C)
Lauraceae	Lauraceae sp. TVA1458	Kereti (Ar)
Leguminosae-Caesalp.	Crudia sp. TVA1468	
	Crudia glaberrima (Steud.) J.F. Macbr.	Swamp wallaba (Cr)
Leguminosae-Mimos.	Inga sp. TVA920	Whitey (Cr)
Leguminosae-Papil.	Lonchocarpus heptaphyllus (Poir.) DC.	
	Lonchocarpus sericeus (Poir.) DC.	Savanna water wallaba (Cr)
Malpighiaceae	Mezia cf. includens (Benth.) Cuatrec.	Kuyari ïnga igï (C)
Melastomataceae	Miconia fragilis Naud.	Tonoropio, Mainyapo (C)
	Miconia plukenetii Naud.	Maipyuri keraporï (C)
	Miconia sp. TVA1752	
Meliaceae	Guarea sp. TVA1125	Hill tohmopara (C)
Moraceae	Pseudolmedia laevis (Ruiz & Pav.) J.F. Macbr.	
Myristicaceae	Myristicaceae sp. TVA956	
Myrtaceae	Myrcia fallax (Rich.) DC.	Quackoo (Cr)
Polygalaceae	Moutabea guianensis Aubl.	
Polygonaceae	Triplaris weigeltiana (Rchb.) O. Kuntze	Long John (Cr), Tyasi (C)
Rhizophoraceae	Cassipouria guianensis Aubl.	Wild coffee (Cr)
Sapindaceae	Pseudima frutescens (Aubl.) Radlk.	Tïyawasisyeng (C)
	Talisia cf. hemidasya Radlk.	Kulishiri (Cr)
Solanaceae	Solanum rugosum Dunal	Itchwood (Cr)
Violaceae	Paypayrola longifolia Tul.	Poripjori (C)
	Rinorea cf. flavescens (Aubl.) Kuntze	

5. AGRICULTURAL SPECIES IN NORTHWEST GUYANA

5.1 Fruit species

Anacardiaceae	Anacardium occidentale L.	Cashew
	Mangifera indica L.	Mango
	Spondias dulcis Parkinson	Golden apple
Annonaceae	Annona muricata L.	Soursop
	Rollinia mucosa (Jacq.) Baill.	Sugar apple
Bromeliaceae	Ananas comosus (L.) Merr.	Pine
Caricaceae	Carica papaya L.	Pawpaw
Chrysobalanaceae	Chrysobalanus icaco L.	Fat pork
Combretaceae	Terminalia catappa L.	Almond
Cucurbitaceae	Citrillus lanatus (Thunb.) Matsum. & Nakai	Watermelon
Ebenaceae	Diospyros discolor Willd.	Peach
Flacourtiaceae	Flacourtia jangomas (Lour.) Raeusch.	Psidium
Guttiferae	Mammea americana L.	Mammee apple
Lauraceae	Persea americana P. Mill.	Pear
Malpighiaceae	Malphigia emarginata DC.	Cherry
Musaceae	Musa sp.	Black banana
	Musa x paradisiaca	Plantain
Myrtaceae	Eugenia uniflora L.	Surinam cherry
	Psidium cattleianum Sabine	French guava
	Psidium guajava L.	Guava
	Syzygium cumini (L.) Skeels	Jamoon

	Syzygium jambos (L.) Alston	Plumrose
	Syzygium malaccense (L.) Merr. & Perry	French cashew
Oxalidaceae	Averrhoa carambola L.	Carambola
Palmae	Astrocaryum aculeatum G. Mey.	Acquero (Sp)
	Astrocaryum vulgare Mart.	Awarra
	Bactris gasipaes Kunth	Parepi
	Cocos nucifera L.	Coconut
Passifloraceae	Passiflora quadrangularis L.	Granadilla
Rutaceae	Citrus aurantiifolia (Christm.) Swingle	Lime
	Citrus aurantium L.	Seville orange
	Citrus medica L.	Rough lemon
	Citrus reticulata Blanco	Tangerine
	Citrus sinensis (L.) Osbeck	Orange
	Citrus paradisi Macfad.	Grapefruit
Sapotaceae	Chrysophyllum cainito L	Starapple
	Manilkara zapota (L.) Royen	Sapodilla
Solanaceae	Capsicum anuum L.	Pepper (diff. cultivars)
	Lycopersicon esculentum Mill.	Tomato
Sterculiaceae	Theobroma cacao L.	Cocoa

5.2 Starchy tubers

Araceae	Colocasia esculenta (L.) Schott	Dasheen (diff. cultivars)
	Xanthosoma sagittifolium (L.) Schott	Eddoe
Convolvulaceae	Ipomoea batatas (L.) Poir.	Sweet potato
Dioscoreaceae	Dioscorea alata L.	Wild yam
	Dioscorea cf. esculenta (Lour.) Prain	Plimpla yam
	Dioscorea trifida L.f.	White yam
Euphorbiaceae	Manihot esculenta Crantz	Cassava (diff. cultivars)
Marantaceae	Calathea aff. legrelleana (Linden) Regel	Nut yam

5.3 Vegetables

Amaranthaceae	Amaranthus dubius Mart. ex Thell.	Chow rai
Basellaceae	Basella alba L.	Chinese callalloo
Cucurbitaceae	Cucumis sativus L.	Cucumber
	Cucurbita moschata (Lam.) Poir.	Pumpkin
	Lagenaria siceraria (Molina) Standl.	Squash
	Luffa cylindrica (L.) M. Roem.	Ninwa
	Momordica charantia L.	Caryla
Leguminosae-Papil.	Cajanus cajan (L.) Millsp.	Pigeon pea
	Vigna sinensis (L.) Savi ex Hassk.	Green pea
	Vigna unguiculata (L.) Walp.	Bora
	Phaseolus lunatus L.	Butter bean
Malvaceae	Abelmoschus esculentus (L.) Moench	Okra
Moraceae	Artocarpus altilis (Parkins.) Fosby	Breadfruit, Breadnut

5.4 Other food plants

Gramineae	Saccharum officinarum L.	Sugar cane
	Zea mais L.	Corn
Labiatae	Coleus amboinicus Lour.	Broad leaf thyme
Malvaceae	Hibiscus sabdariffa L.	Sorrel
Palmae	Elaeis guineensis Jacq.	Oil palm
Rubiaceae	Coffea liberica Bull. ex Hiern	Coffee
Zingiberaceae	Curcuma xanthorrhiza Roxb.	Dye
	Zingiber officinale Roscoe	Ginger

5.5 Ornamental plants

Agavaceae	Cordyline fructicosa (L.) A. Chev.	Baboon goggle
	Agave americana L. var. marginata Trel.	
Amaranthaceae	Celosia cristata L.	Auhto epïrïrï (C)
Cactaceae	Pereskia aculeata Mill.	
Cannaceae	Canna x generalis	
Convolvulaceae	Ipomoea carnea Jacq. subsp. fistulosa (Choisy) D.F. Austin	
Euphorbiaceae	Hevea brasiliensis (A. Juss) Müll. Arg.	Rubber tree
Labiatae	Coleus blumei Benth.	Old man's beard
	Coleus hybridus Hort.	
Malvaceae	Hibiscus rosa-sinensis L.	Hibiscus
Portulacaceae	Portulaca oleracea L.	Starflower (C)
	Portulaca sedifolia N.E. Br.	Jump-up-and-kiss-me
Rubiaceae	Ixora coccinea L.	Baby apple
Thunbergiaceae	Thunbergia alata Bojer ex Sims	
Turneraceae	Turnera ulmifolia L.	Morning glory
Zingiberaceae	Hedychium coronarium J. König	Wild ginger
	Zingiber zerumbet (L.) Sm.	Wild ginger

5.6 Medicinal plants

Cactaceae	Opuntia cochinellifera (L.) Mill.	Cochineal
Crassulaceae	Bryophyllum pinnatum (Lam.) Kurtz.	Leaf of life
Euphorbiaceae	Euphorbia neriifolia L.	Sweet alas
	Jatropha curcas L.	Physic nut (white)
	Jatropha gossypifolia L.	Physic nut (black)
	Pedilanthus tithymaloides Poit.	Bleeding heart
Gramineae	Cymbopogon citratus (DC.) Stapf.	Lemongrass
Labiatae	Ocimum campechianum P. Mill.	Tulsie
Leguminosae-Papil.	Indigofera suffruticosa Mill.	Indigo blue
Liliaceae	Aloe vera L.	Bitter aloes
Simaroubaceae	Quassia amara L.	Quashi bitter
Verbenaceae	Lippia alba L.	Teasam
	Lippia micromera L.	Small leaf thyme
Zingiberaceae	Aframomum melegueta (Roscoe) K. Schum.	Guinea pepper

5.7 Magic plants

Amaranthaceae	Alternanthera sp. TVA596	Turtle bina
Amaryllidaceae	Hymenocallis cf. littoralis (Jacq.) Salisb.	Bina
Araceae	Caladium humboldtii Schott	Lucky plant
	Xanthosoma brasiliense Engl.	Yesibina
Malvaceae	Abelmoschus moschatus Medik.	Snake scent
Marantaceae	Maranta aff. arundinacea Plum. ex L.	White man bina
Scrophulariaceae	Asarina cf. erubescens (L.) Hemsl.	Cassava mother

5.8 Fish poisons

Compositae	Clibadium surinamense L.	Kunami (broad leaf)
Euphorbiaceae	Euphorbia cotinifolia L.	Kunaparu (2 cultivars)
	var. kunapalua Christenhusz	
	Phyllanthus brasiliensis (Aubl.) Poir.	Kunami (2 cultivars)
Leguminosae-Papil.	Tephrosia sinapou (Buchholz) A. Chev.	Root poison

5.9 Miscellaneous

Agavaceae	Furcraea sp. TVA1767	Kukui (Ar)
Bignoniaceae	Crescentia cujete L.	Calabash
Bixaceae	Bixa orellana L.	Onotto
Bromeliaceae	Ananas comosus (L.) Merr.	Krawa

Cucurbitaceae	Cucumis melo L.	Wild gourd
Gramineae	Bambusa vulgaris Schrad. ex J.C. Wendl.	Bamboo
	Vetiveria zizanioides (L.) Nash	Lavender
Malvaceae	Gossypium barbadense L.	Cotton
Solanaceae	Nicotiana tabacum L.	Tobacco

6. INDEX OF SCIENTIFIC NAMES

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8. REFERENCES

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9. Colour Plates

p. 333
1. Large hubudi tree (*Anacardium giganteum*) spared for its fruits during the felling of the surrounding primary forest

2. Cultivated fruit of the wild soursop (*Annona montana*)

3. Warao man weaving a fan from acquero straw (*Astrocaryum aculeatum*)

4. Processing palm hearts from *Euterpe oleracea* in the canning company, Barima

p. 334
5. House with wall made of balamanni bark (*Catostemma commune*)

6. Bundles of aerial roots of nibi (*Heteropsis flexuosa*) lying for sale at the Charity market

7. Weaving strips of nibi (*Heteropsis flexuosa*) around a frame of kufa (*Clusia* spp.) in a furniture factory, coastal Guyana

8. Bird trap using the pliable trunk of white yariyari (*Duguetia pycnastera*)

p. 335
9. Building a roof of dhalebana (*Geonoma baculifera*)

10. Tying a roof frame with nibi (*Heteropsis flexuosa* or *Thoracocarpus bissectus*)

11. Squeezing the poisonous juice from the bitter cassava with a matapi made from mokru (*Ischnosiphon arouma*)

12. A temporary warishi ('waiari') woven from tutu leaves (*Jessenia bataua* subsp. *oligocarpa*)

p. 336
13. Carib clay pot blackened with maporokoñ bark (*Inga alba*)

14. House with roof and walls of troolie (*Manicaria saccifera*)

15. Roof of troolie (*Manicaria saccifera*) from the inside

16. Making fire with an inflorescence (*Manicaria saccifera*)

p. 337
17. Preparing cigarette paper from the split bark of winakakaralli (*Lecythis corrugata* subsp. *corrugata*)

18. Bird cage from the petioles of the ité palm (*Mauritia flexuosa*)

19. Stripping tibisiri fibre from a young ité palm shoot (*Mauritia flexuosa*)

20. 'Sarapa' arrow made from wokunse wood (*Quiina guiantensis*)

p. 338
21. Counting frame made from the petioles of the ité palm (*Mauritia flexuosa*)

22. Kokerite palm (*Maximiliana maripa*) spared for its fruits in recently burned farm

23. Baking cassava bread on a fire of Chrysobalanaceae wood

24. Toy boat made of corkwood (*Pterocarpus officinalis* subsp. *officinalis*)

p. 339
25. Commercial craft made of corkwood (*Pterocarpus officinalis* subsp. *officinalis*)

26. Harvesting the bark of maho (*Sterculia pruriens*) for lashing material

27. Melting the karamam wax, made from the exudate of manni (*Symphonia globulifera*)

28. 'Blackening' the twine of the arrow with karaman wax (from *Symphonia globulifera*)

p. 340
29. House with wall in 'wattle and stave' construction

30. medicinal plant vendor at the Bourda market, Georgetown

31. Non-timber forest products put up for sale, Stabroek market, Georgetown

32. Wildlife harvesting in Kariako, Barama. The land turtle (*Geochelone denticula*) is one of the main hunted animals.


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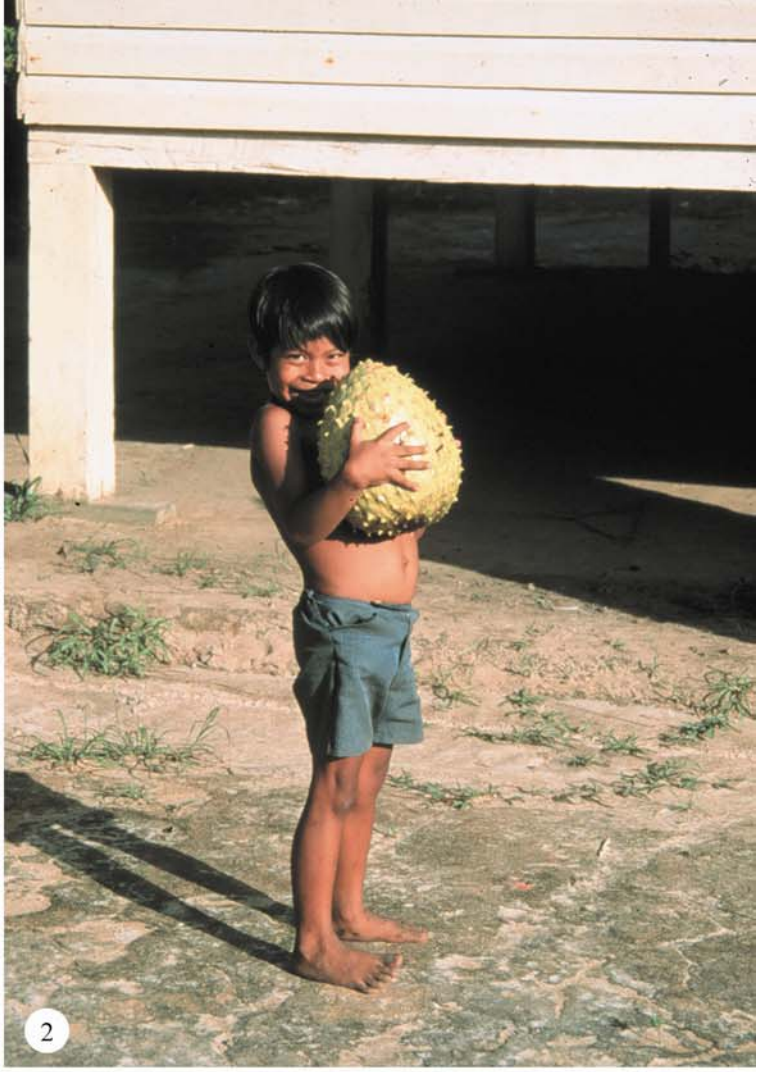
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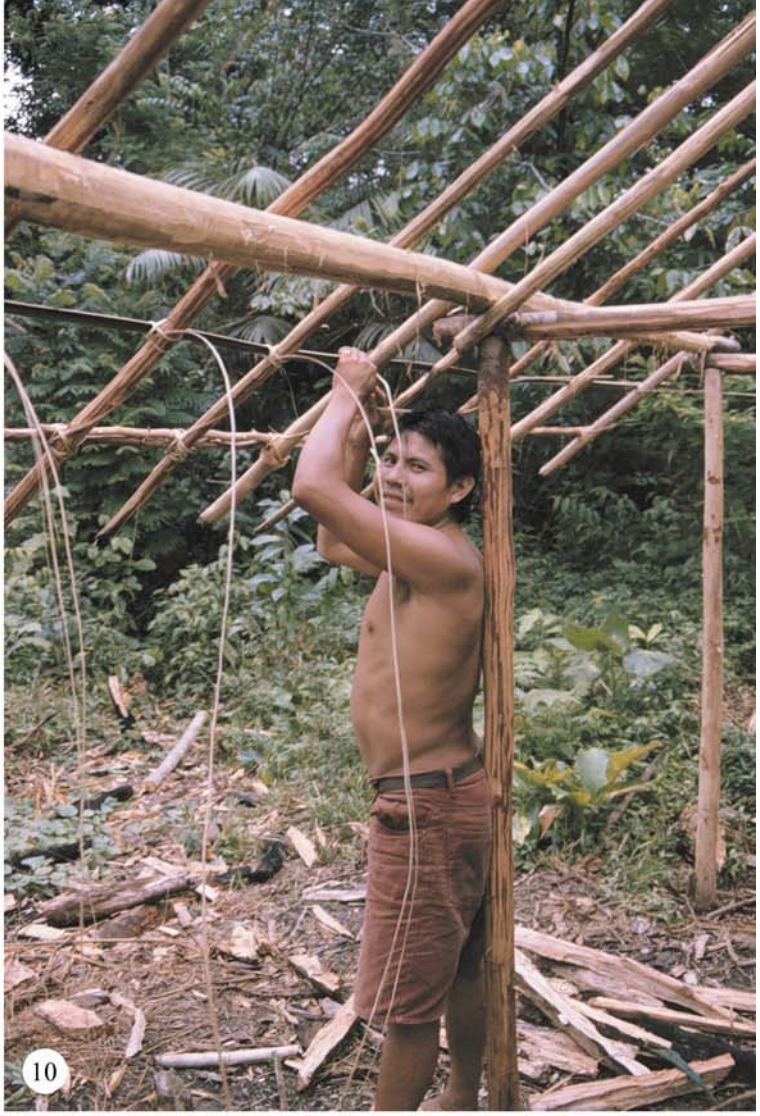
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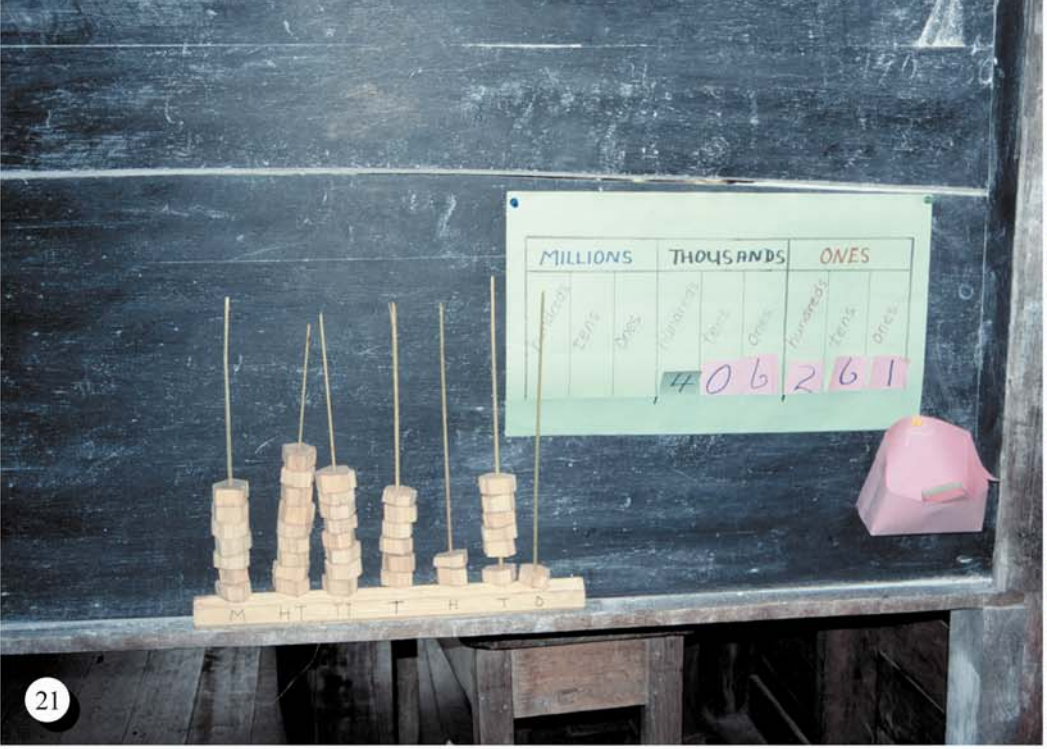

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The information on plant names and uses in the North-West District presented in this book was generously provided to me by a large number of people. Their knowledge has been passed over to them by their parents, grandparents, and earlier ancestors, and has given them the opportunity to live in the interior for thousands of years. I sincerely hope that this book may stimulate the younger generations in Guyana to use and cherish this knowledge, and, above all, to be proud of it. The following people have made a substantial contribution to this book:

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5. (Frankie Abrahams, Moruca)

6. Pupils of the Assakata primary school

7. Auntie Bernie Gomes, with her mother Mrs. Gomes, Acquero

8. Flora Charles, Kariako

9. Irene and Daniel Wilson (Warapoka)

10. Auntie Poto (Santa Rosa)

11. Teacher Dennis John and pupils of the Kokerite primary school, Kariako

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16. Calisto 'Carsto' Abrahams, Moruca

17. Alice Samuels, Kariako

18. Pupils of the Santa Rosa primary school

19. Annie Toney, Kariako

20. Lloyd Oselmo, Kabrora

21. Lloyd Savory, Horodeiah