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Caryocar nuciferum

SOARI NUT is a tree. Native to north-eastern South America (especially Guyana) and also to the Caribbean, it has large purple or deep red flowers with many white stamens.

It is also known as Butter-nut, Pekea nut, Souari nut, and Swarri nut.

Nuciferum is derived from Latin *nucleus* (nut) and *-fer* (bearing, carrying) components meaning 'producing nuts'.

In 1891 soari nut was introduced to Sri Lanka (then Ceylon) and eight years later it reached Singapore.

The kernels (which yield cooking oil or a butter-like cooking fat according to the kind of processing) can be eaten raw, boiled or roasted.

In India the woody roots have been made into tools for waterfaring activities.