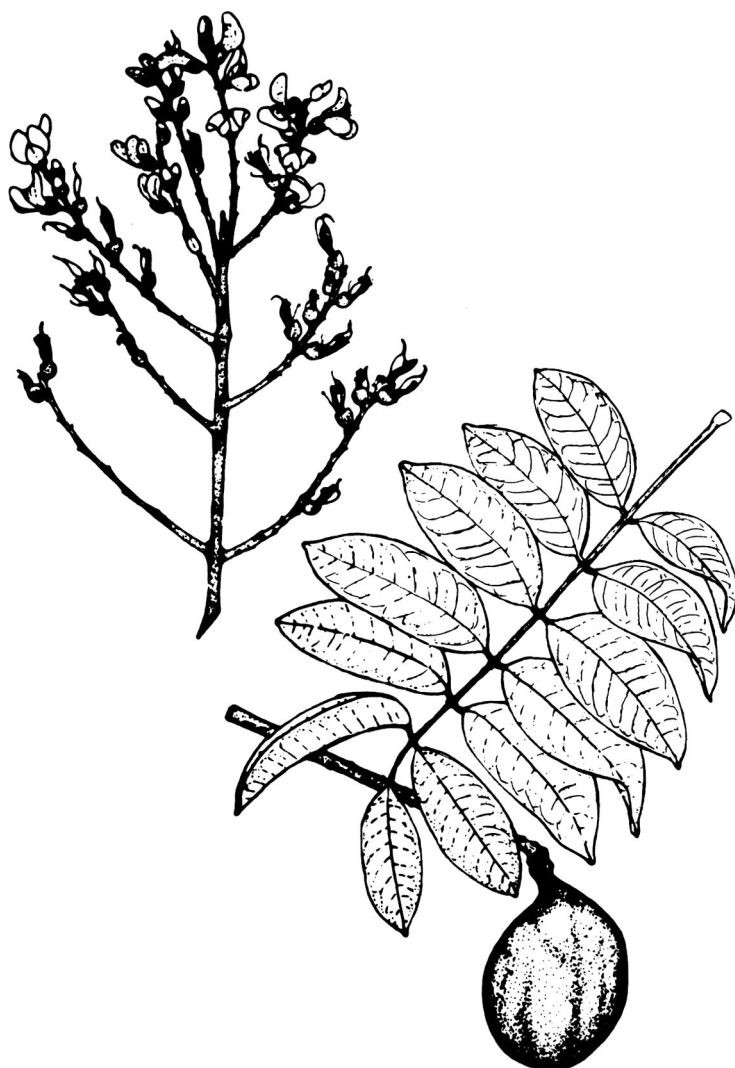


30. *ANDIRA INERMIS* HBK. (FABACEAE) — Cabbage Bark

Timber tree, apparently fixing N, sometimes grown as a park tree. Wood is dark reddish-brown to black, with average density of 800 kg/m^3 , very resistant to attack by fungi and insects. It is used for boats, bridges, cabinets, canes, carts, cue sticks, and furniture. Bark used as a fish poison. Flowers serve as nectar source for bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds; classes as an excellent honey plant. Bats eat the fruits.

Reported to be anthelmintic, piscicidal, purgative, and vermifuge; is a folk remedy for eczema, fever, malaria, and yaws.^{32,42} Cubans use the leaf decoction as an antidote to *Comocladia* poisoning. Trinidad natives apply the bark decoction for eczema and yaws, taking it as a vermifuge.⁴²

Bark and seeds contain berberine and andirine (angelin or N-methyltyrosine). Wood contains an isoflavonoid related to dalbergiones and biochanin A.⁶

Toxicity — Narcotic;² large doses of bark or seed may cause violent nausea, possibly fatal. Antidotes suspected for overdoses include castor oil or lime juice.² Tree can cause dermatitis in wood workers.⁶ Smoke from burning wood is irritating to the eyes.⁴²