

Ribeiro, G. et al. Propagules morphology of *virolasurinamensis* (rol. ex rottb.) warb. (Myristicaceae) of forest in the river Amazonas estuary, Amapá, Brazil

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The propagules morphological characters are very important to identification process and recognition of plant species. This study aimed describe fruits and seeds morphology of *Virolasurinamensis*. At least 30 fruits were collected directly into the canopy of a tree in Mazagão City, study area FLORESTAM project (in Amazon estuary). Then, propagules were measured and described morphologically. The fruit is coccum type with 2 valves, fleshy, dehiscent, pale green (immature) to green yellowish (mature), have globose to slightly pyriform shape, with obtuse to slightly cuneate apex and obtuse to occasionally mucronate base. It's on average 4.5 g weight, 2.2 cm long and 2.0 cm wide. Pericarp is leathery, slender and smooth to slightly rugate, its external surface has stellate golden hairs and the internal surface is pale yellow, slightly corrugated and glabrous. Fruit contains a single seed: 1.5 g weight, 1.3 cm long and 1.3 cm wide. This specie has distinguished character, the red aril covering the seed completely or partially. Seeds are pale brown, globose and hard. Seed thin tegument is membranaceous and glabrous. Seed coat is dark red, crustaceous and velvety (short hairs), endosperm with reserve, light brown, fleshy and oilseed consistency. Germination occurs 2 months after sowed seeds and seedlings are formed in 3 months. The structures of the fruit showed a clear dispersion zoochorous but which secondarily can be hydrochory as the seed light may fluctuate. Species identification is critical to sustainable use. Natural regeneration knowledge provides scientific subsidies for conservation and forest management in these floodplains.

Keywords: FLORESTAM, Amazon, morphology, germination, seeds, *Virola*