PLANT FACT SHEET

Euphorbia humifusa Willdenow

GENUS *Euphorbia* **FAMILY** Euphorbiaceae

COMMON NAMES Spurge

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Plant - tea

Caution: All Euphorbias or spurges have irritating sap and many have chemicals that can cause cancer.
The shoots and leaves are eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A low herb. It spreads over the ground and is 15-20 cm across. The small branches are slender. The leaves are opposite and small. They do not have leaf stalks. They are 5-10 mm long by 4-6 mm wide. The base is oblique. There are teeth along the edge. The leaves are green and tinged purplish-red. The flowers are small and red. The fruit capsules are almost round and the seeds are 3 sided.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. In China it grows from sea level to 3,000 m above sea level. It can be on sandy hills and sea shores.

NOTES

There are about 2000 Euphorbia species. Most Euphorbias have sap which irritates the skin.

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