PLANT FACT SHEET

Ludwigia abyssinica A. Rich.

GENUS *Ludwigia* **FAMILY** Onagraceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Roots, Leaves, Vegetable

The leaves are eaten as a cooked vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

A stout succulent herb. It can be woody at the base. It has a taproot. It is well-branched and straggling. It grows 3 m high. The leaves are alternate. The leaf blades are 2-13 cm long and 1-4 cm wide. They taper to the base. The flowers are in clusters on short shoots in the axils of leaves. They are yellow. The fruit is a capsule 102 cm long and 1-2 mm wide. It develops a thick hard wall. There are several rows of seeds in each capsule.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in swampy situations in lowland and mountainous areas. It grows in hot arid areas with a marked dry season in water logged soil. It grows between sea level and 1,900 m above sea level. It can tolerate several weeks submerged in water. It is a weed or rice. It can grow in arid places.

NOTES

There are about 75-80 Ludwigia species. They grow in the tropics.

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