PLANT FACT SHEET

Solanum x juzepczuki Bukasov

GENUS *Solanum* **FAMILY** Solanaceae

COMMON NAMES Bitter potatoes, Luki, Ruku

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Tubers, Root

The tubers are harvested then exposed to the overnight cold for several nights before being pressed and dried. They were then processed into chuno or flour and eaten as bread. White chuno is washed after freezing while black chuno is not.

DESCRIPTION

Plants grow to 30-50 cm high. They grow in a ring type or arrangement. The leaves are long and straight. The leaf stalks are short. The petals of the flower are blue. The tubers vary is size and shape. They can be round or elongated.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows between 3,900 and 4,200 m altitude in the Andes. There is only a small reduction in yield with temperatures of -5°C. Temperatures between 6°-14°C are normal during the growth priod. Rainfall between 400-1 400 mm over the growing season is normal.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are sown as rain is anticipated. Often several sowings are used to ensure against variations in the rainfall. Plants are earthed up during growth. Tuber formation starts at flowering after 5-7 weeks.

Harvesting and Seed Production

They take 5-8 months to reach maturity.

NOTES

There are about 1400 Solanum species.

REFERENCES

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/0715571c-c231-4df0-9a7f-07b0813858d6