PLANT FACT SHEET

Oldenlandia corymbosa Linn.

GENUS *Oldenlandia* **FAMILY** Rubiaceae

COMMON NAMES Old world diamond flower

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Vegetable

The leaves and young branches are cooked and eaten. They are often cooked with fish or meat.
The leaves and stems are burnt and the ash mixed with water then filtered and used as a tenderiser for other vegetables. The ash can be stored for several months.

DESCRIPTION

An erect annual herb. It grows 30 cm high. The leaf blades are 1-4 cm long by 1-7 mm wide. The leaves are entire, sword shaped and opposite. The flowers are white. They are in long stalked groups. The flowers occur as 1 to several in the axils of leaves. The fruit is a half round capsule 1-2 mm long by 2-3 mm wide. The seeds are pale brown. They are 0.3 mm long. There are some varieties.

HABITAT

It is a tropical and subtropical plant. It occurs between 450-1,450 m above sea level. It grows in open areas with grass or damp shady areas.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed or cuttings.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Leaves are collected during the rainy season.

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