PLANT FACT SHEET

Dipcadi glaucum (Burch. ex Ker Gawl.) Baker

GENUS *Dipcadi* **FAMILY** Asparagaceae

COMMON NAMES Wild onion, Poison onion

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Bulb

CAUTION: Some closely related Dipcadi are used as rat poison.
The onion like bulb is eaten after roasting. Caution: It is considered poisonous.
The young leaves are eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

An erect plant with a bulb. The bulb is oval and 3-6 cm across. The leaves occur as 6-9 leaves in a rose shaped arrangement. They are smooth and shiny and like a narrow sword. The flowers are in a loose cluster around a central stem. The individual flowers are yellowish green and with a long stalk. The fruit are round capsules. Inside are flat black shiny seeds. These are 8 mm across.

HABITAT

A subtropical plant. It grows in hot arid areas with a marked dry season. It grows over limestone material It grows in stony and sandy soils. It grows between 440-1,675 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places.

NOTES

They have also been put in the families Hyacinthaceae and Liliaceae.

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