PLANT FACT SHEET

Arthropodium milleflorum (DC.) Macbride

GENUS *Arthropodium* **FAMILY** Asparagaceae

COMMON NAMES Pale vanilla lily

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Tuber, Root, Flowers

The slender white tubers are eaten. They can be eaten raw or cooked.

DESCRIPTION

A tufted lily which keeps growing from year to year. It grows 30-50 cm high and spreads 30 cm wide. The roots are fibrous. Some of the roots are fleshy and like tubers. They can be 4 cm long and 1 cm across. They are 4-10 cm below the ground. The leaves are 30 cm long by 1-3 cm wide. They are in dense tufts and can be grey. They are strap like. The flower stems are 50-100 cm long. The flowers are 2 cm across. The flower stalks are 1.5 cm long and they occur in twos or threes. They are on a leafless branched flower stem. The flowers are pale lilac or mauve. The flowers are star shaped and long stiffly spreading stalks. The stamens are densely white and hairy.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It suits moist well drained soils. It grows in hilly and often rocky places. They grow in dry forest and woodlands. It suits light shade but can grow in full sun. It can tolerate frost. Hobart Botanical Gardens. Tasmania Herbarium.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed or by division.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It is hard to locate the tubers after the flowering plant dies back.

NOTES

There are 12 Arthropodium species.
Also put in the family Laxmanniaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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