PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Alstroemeria aurea* Graham

**GENUS** *Alstroemeria* **FAMILY** Alstroemeriaceae

**COMMON NAMES** Peruvian lily, Inca lily

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Root

The root is eaten raw or cooked.

## DESCRIPTION

A perennial herb. It has tuberous roots. It grows 1 m high and 1 m across. The leaves are twisted, narrow and lance shaped. Flowers are yellow-orange. They are in groups of 2-4. The fruit is a capsule with several seeds.

## HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows naturally in moist woodland in Chile. It requires a moist well drained soil. In Argentina it grows between 200-1,900 m above sea level. It can tolerate frosts especially once well established. It can grow in some shade. It suits hardiness zone 8.

## PRODUCTION

### Cultivation

It can be grown from seed or by careful division of the rootstock. Seeds need cold treatment.

## NOTES

There are about 50-80 Alstroemeria species. They occur in South America especially in cool mountain regions.

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