PLANT FACT SHEET

Tacca chantrieri Andre

GENUS *Tacca* **FAMILY** Dioscoreaceae

COMMON NAMES Batflower

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Flowers, Root, Tuber

The young leaves and flower shoots are eaten in curries.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It keeps growing from year to year. It grows 60 cm high. The rhizome or underground stem is cylinder shaped. It is 8-15 cm long. There are 4-14 leaves. The leaves are 10-35 cm long. The leaf blade is entire and oval. The flowering stalk is 45-80 cm long. There are 4 bracts in 2 pairs at right angles. The flowers are purple and 1-3 cm long. The fruit are shiny and purple-black. The seeds are kidney shaped. They have deep furrows.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows on the forest floor. It grows well in a shady spot with plenty of moisture and a humus-rich soil. It grows in valley forests and along rivers between 200-1,300 m above sea level in southern China. It needs a hardiness zone 10-12. In Yunnan. In Townsville Queens BG.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed or by division of the tuber.

NOTES

Also put in the family Taccaceae.
Presumably in a hot house in Slovenia.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

REFERENCES

Anderson, E. F., 1993, Plants and people of the Golden Triangle. Dioscorides Press. p 222

http://www.botanic-gardens-ljubljana.com/en/plants

IUCN (2013). Ecological Survey of the Mekong River between Louangphabang and Vientiane Cities, Lao PDR, 2011-2012. Vientiane, Lao PDR: IUCN. 241 pp.

Rev. Hort. 73:541. 1901

Staples, G.W. and Herbst, D.R., 2005, A tropical Garden Flora. Bishop Museum Press, Honolulu, Hawaii. p 755 (Drawing)

Suwardi, A. B., 2018, Nutritional Evaluation of Some Wild Edible Tuberous Plants as Alternative Foods. Innovare Journal of Food Science, Vol. 6, Issue 2. (Also as Tacca minor)

Xu, You-Kai, et al, 2004, Wild Vegetable Resources and Market Survey in Xishuangbanna, Southwest China. Economic Botany. 58(4): 647-667.

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/1285b1a5-8016-4e49-92c1-b3d47e766e89