PLANT FACT SHEET

Use with caution

This plant can be harmful if it is eaten raw, in large amounts or without the right preparation. Read the whole fact sheet before use.

Solanum erianthum D. Don

GENUS *Solanum* **FAMILY** Solanaceae

COMMON NAMES Potato tree, Mullein Nightshade

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Leaves

The unripe fruit are used in curries. They are cooked.
The leaves are used as a vegetable. They are used in soups and other vegetable dishes.
Caution: There are claims that it can cause miscarriage.

DESCRIPTION

An evergreen shrub. It grows 2-8 m high. The leaves are oval and woolly. They are 15-30 cm long. The flowers rotate. The lobes are star shaped. They are white or greenish. The stalks are woolly. The fruit is round and orange when ripe. They are 4 cm across.

HABITAT

A tropical and subtropical plant. It does well in seasonally moist and dry climates. It will grow on average to poor, well-drained soils. It will grow in full or part sun. In Pakistan it grows up to 1,600 m altitude. It can grow in arid places. It suits hardiness zones 9-11. In Sichuan and Yunnan.

NOTES

There are about 1400 Solanum species. It is used in medicine.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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