PLANT FACT SHEET

Aristolochia serpentaria L.

GENUS *Aristolochia* **FAMILY** Aristolochiaceae

COMMON NAMES Virginia snakeroot, Serpentary

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Root - flavouring, Spice

The roots are dried and used to produce and essential oil used to flavour alcoholic drinks. Caution: Alcohol is a cause of cancer.

DESCRIPTION

A small herb. It keeps growing from year to year. It grows 10-45 cm high and wide. The stems are upright and thin and zigzag. The leaves are heart-shaped and 4-15 cm long. The flowers occur singly and are brown-purple and S shaped. They are 1 cm long. The fruit is a hard capsule.

HABITAT

A temperate plant. It can tolerate frost.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. They can also be grown by division or cuttings.

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