PLANT FACT SHEET

Romulea rosea (L.) Ecklon

GENUS *Romulea* **FAMILY** Iridaceae

COMMON NAMES Onion grass, Guildford grass, Onion weed

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Pods, Fruit

CAUTION: The plants have caused infertility and abortion in cattle.
The young green fleshy fruit are eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A small herb. It keeps growing from year to year. It arises from a bulb under the ground. The leaves are narrow and linear. They are 30 cm long and grooved. They are like grass. They are very tough. They have a thickened edge and midrib. The base of the leaves sheaths the stem underground. There are up to 4 flowers from each corm. They are on a leaf free stem. The flowers are pink. They are like stars. They are supported by an unequal pair of sword shaped bracts. The fruit is a capsule with 3 sections. It has broad wrinkles. There are 10-30 seeds. The capsule opens widely into 3 blunt leathery lobes.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows in pasture.

NOTES

There are about 90 Romulea species.

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