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.

Aristolochia debilis Sieb. & Zucc.

GENUS *Aristolochia* **FAMILY** Aristolochiaceae

COMMON NAMES Ma dou ling, Birthwort, Horse-Bell

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves

CAUTION: Many plants in this group are poisonous.
The leaves are boiled and eaten with oil and salt.
The roots and stems are poisonous.

DESCRIPTION

A small herb. It is a scrambling plant with dark purple stems and branching. It grows 1 m tall and spreads 1 m wide. It keeps growing from year to year. The leaves are narrow and almost triangle shaped. They are 4-7 cm long by 5 cm wide. The flowers occur singly and are slender and yellow-green. The fruit is a round capsule.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. It grows on thickets and on mountain slopes or in valleys, moist place between 200-1500 m altitude in China. It can tolerate frost.

NOTES

The Aristolochiaceae are mostly tropical and subtropical. There are about 500 Aristolochia species.

REFERENCES

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Brown, D., 2002, The Royal Horticultural Society encyclopedia of Herbs and their uses. DK Books. p 129

Hwang Shumei; Aristolochiaceae [Draft] in Flora of China

Plants for a Future database, The Field, Penpol, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, PL22 0NG, UK. http://www.scs.leeds.ac.uk/pfaf/

READ

Wilson, S., 1997, Some Plants are Poisonous. Reed. p 21

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

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/1928099f-c2c7-4f50-927e-ea38fad2b37d