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.

Bassia scoparia (L.) A. J. Scott

GENUS *Bassia* **FAMILY** Amaranthaceae

COMMON NAMES Fire bush, Tumbleweed

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Seeds, Shoots, Vegetable

Young plants are edible as a vegetable or potherb. They are also mixed with flour, steamed and seasoned and eaten in summer. They are also fried.

DESCRIPTION

An annual herb. It grows 50-100 cm high and spreads 20-150 cm wide. The leaves are narrow and flat. They are normally mid green but turn purple-red in late summer. The flowers are small. They are in clusters and the same colour as the leaves. Plants break off and roll like a tumble weed.

HABITAT

It is a temperate climate plant. It needs full sun and a well drained soil. It suits hardiness zones 8-11. In Yunnan. In Sichuan.

NOTES

There are about (10) 30 Kochia species. These may now be Bassia.
Also put in the family Chenopodiaceae.

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