PLANT FACT SHEET

Corallocarpus bainesii (Hook. f.) Meeuse

GENUS *Corallocarpus* **FAMILY** Cucurbitaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Stems, Fruit, Root, Vegetable

The ripe fruit is eaten raw.
The tuberous root is eaten raw. It is also baked.
The young leaves are eaten raw or cooked.

DESCRIPTION

A pumpkin family herb. It is a creeper. Older stems have brown bark. The leaves are simple and alternate. The leaf stalk is 2-5 cm long. The leaf blade is oval and deeply divided into 5 lobes like fingers on a hand. The leaves are heart shaped at the base. The flowers are in a congested cluster. The male flowers have stalks and female flowers do not. The fruit is small and 8-9 mm long by 6 mm wide. They are in clusters and bright red. They contain about 6 seeds.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in hot arid areas. It grows in areas with a marked dry season. It is rare in Swaziland. It grows in woodland and bushland between 350-1,150 m altitude. It grows in sandy areas. It can grow in arid places.

NOTES

There are about 10 Corallocarpus species.

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