PLANT FACT SHEET

Persicaria maculata (Rafn.) Love & Love

GENUS *Persicaria* **FAMILY** Polygonaceae

COMMON NAMES Lady's thumb, Knotweed, Red Leg

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Seeds

The stems and leaves are eaten. They can be eaten raw in salads or cooked as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

An annual herb. The stems often produce roots at the lower nodes. It grows up to 50 cm tall. The stems are pointing upwards. The leaves are narrowly sword shaped and on short leaf stalks. There are small hairs on the edges of the leaves. The upper leaf surface is green with a black mark near its centre. The flowers are white or pink. They are in spikes at the top of the plant.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows in wet places.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown by seeds.

NOTES

Chemical composition: Tannin = 1%, Fat = 1.9%. Pectins = 5.4%. Sugars = 3.5%. Cellulose = 27.6%. Small percentage of volatile oil containing the camphor-like principle persicariol. There are about 50 Polygonum species.

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READ,

Tasmanian Herbarium Vascular Plants list p 45

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/1cb1a4fa-9a94-4b34-aa10-7deacf81f20e