PLANT FACT SHEET

Dioscorea filiformis Blume

GENUS *Dioscorea* **FAMILY** Dioscoreaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Tubers, Root

The tubers are boiled and eaten. The tubers need to be well boiled before eating.

DESCRIPTION

A yam. It keeps growing from year to year by growing from the tubers. The stems are round and do not have thorns. They twine to the right. It often has bulbils. The tubers are long and narrow. They are 50 cm long by 2 cm across. The flesh is white. The leaves are simple or mostly alternate but can be opposite on larger stems. The leaf stalk is shorter than the blade. Leaves can be 10 cm long by 7 cm wide. The base is ear shaped. The male flower stalks are leafless and zig zag. Female flower stalks are 20 cm long. The capsules have wings.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in the lowland often on limestone cliffs.

NOTES

There are about 650 species of Dioscorea.

REFERENCES

Burkill, I.H., 1966, A Dictionary of the Economic Products of the Malay Peninsula. Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Vol 1 (A-H) p 831 (As Dioscorea gibbiflora)

Castillo, C., 2013, The Archaeobotany of Khao Sam Kaeo and Phu Khao Thong: The Agriculture of Late Prehistoric Southern Thailand. Ph. D. thesis University College, London p 378

Eiadthong, W., et al, 2010, Management of the Emerald Triangle Protected Forests Complex. Botanical Consultant Technical Report. p 23 (As Dioscorea myriantha)

Kachenchart, B., et al, 2008, Phenology of Edible Plants at Sakaerat Forest. In Proceedings of the FORTROP II: Tropical Forestry Change in a Changing World. Bangkok, Thailand. (As Dioscorea myriantha)

Lim, T. K., 2015, Edible Medicinal and Non Medicinal Plants. Volume 9, Modified Stems, Roots, Bulbs. Springer p 35

Mareenoon, K. et al, 2008, Ethnobotany of Dioscorea L. (Dioscoreaceae), a Major Food Plant of the Sakai Tribe at Banthad Range, Peninsular Thailand. Ethnobotany Reaearch & Applications 6:385-394

PROSEA handbook Volume 9 Plants yielding non-seed carbohydrates. p 172

World Checklist of Useful Plant Species 2020. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/1e0b0d90-59fe-48c6-af1f-ed0691af4818