PLANT FACT SHEET

Gongronemopsis angolensis (N. E. Br.) Bullock

GENUS *Gongronemopsis* **FAMILY** Apocynaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Root, Vegetable

The thick fleshy roots are eaten by children.

DESCRIPTION

A slender climber. It grows 3-4 m long. It climbs trees. It has a woody base and fleshy roots. The leaves are opposite and simple. They have soft hairs. The leaf stalk is 4 cm long. The leaves are oval and 5-14 cm long by 3-10 cm wide. The base is heart shaped and it tapers to the tip. The flowers are in a cluster, with 10-14 flowers on each branch. The flowers are tube shaped. The fruit is a pair of leathery follicles that hang down. These are cylinder shaped and 10-15 cm long by 4-8 mm wide. They have dense brown hairs. The seeds are 7 mm long by 2 mm wide.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in secondary vegetation in tropical Africa. It grows in dry locations from sea level to 1,800 m above sea level.

NOTES

There are 5 Gongronema species. They are in Africa.
It has also been put in the family Asclepiadaceae.

REFERENCES

Burkill, H. M., 1985, The useful plants of west tropical Africa, Vol. 1. Kew. (As Gongronema angolense)

Ferns, Useful tropical Plants. (As Marsdenia angolensis)

Grubben, G. J. H. and Denton, O. A. (eds), 2004, Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 2. Vegetables. PROTA, Wageningen, Netherlands. p 307 (As Gongronema angolense)

von Katja Rembold, 2011, Conservation status of the vascular plants in East African rain forests. Dissertation Universitat Koblenz-Landau p 168 (As Gongronema angolense)

World Checklist of Useful Plant Species 2020. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (As Marsdenia angolensis)

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/1f6ecf95-be22-40c6-9162-625e4c15fd41