PLANT FACT SHEET

Viola hederacea Labillardierre

GENUS *Viola* **FAMILY** Violaceae

COMMON NAMES Native violet, Australian violet, Ivy-leaf Violet

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Flowers

The flowers are sweet and edible and are used in salads.

DESCRIPTION

A low creeping plant. It grows 5-8 cm high. It spreads 1-2 m wide. It spreads by runners. These produce roots at the nodes. The leaves are like ivy. They are round to kidney shaped and dark green. They are scalloped along the edge. The flowers are purple and white violets and on long stems. The fruit are egg shaped.

HABITAT

It grows in temperate regions. It can grow in the subtropics. It needs well drained soil. It needs to grow in light shade. It can stand light frosts. It grows in woodland and dry forest. It grows up to 2100 m altitude in mountains in S Australia. It suits hardiness zones 8-10. Tasmania Herbarium. Arboretum Tasmania.

PRODUCTION

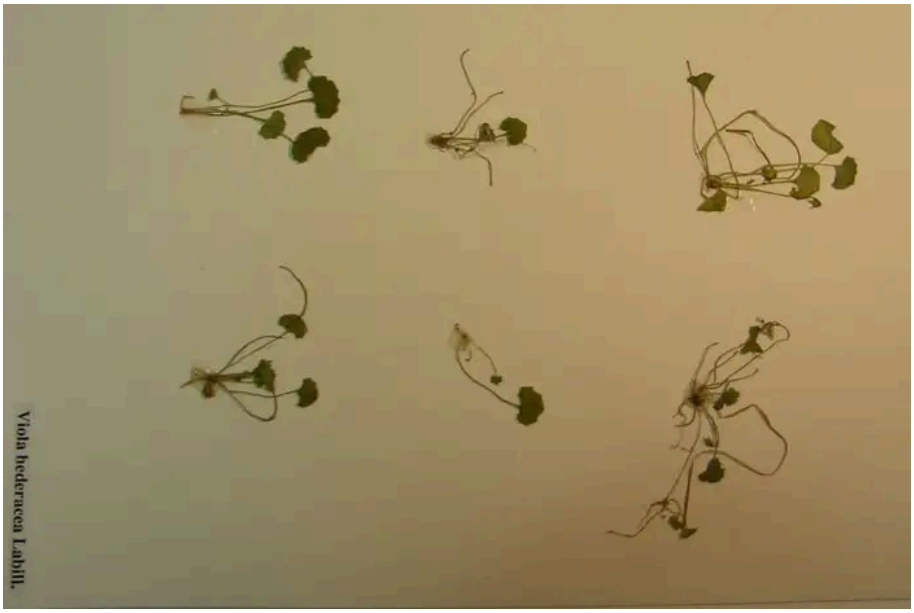
Cultivation

Plants are usually grown by separating the plantlets. These develop along creeping stolons. They can be grown from seed. It can be grown by diving the clump.

NOTES

There are about 500 Viola species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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