PLANT FACT SHEET

Hibiscus moscheutos L.

GENUS *Hibiscus* **FAMILY** Malvaceae

COMMON NAMES Rose mallow, Swamp rose mallow

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds

The seed are used to flavour coffee.

DESCRIPTION

A bushy herb. It is erect and coarse. It keeps growing from year to year. It is similar to okra. It grows 1-2.5 m tall. The leaf stalk is 4-10 cm long. The leaves are broad and angular. Sometimes they have 2 side lobes. The leaf blade is 10-18 cm long by 4-8 cm wide. The flowers occur singly in the axils of leaves. The flower has 5 petals. They are cream coloured. It has a yellow centre. Flowers are 10-14 cm across. The fruit is a capsule which is cone shaped. It is 2.5-3 cm across. The seeds are kidney shaped and 2-3 mm across.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It will grow in swamps and marshes. It suits hardiness zones 5-9. In Yunnan.

NOTES

There are about 220 Hibiscus species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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