PLANT FACT SHEET

Astragalus boeticus L.

GENUS *Astragalus* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Swedish coffee, Loco, Milk vetch

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: pod, Seeds, Seeds - coffee

The seeds are roasted, ground and used as a substitute for coffee.
The seeds are also eaten raw by shepherds and children.

DESCRIPTION

A short annual herb. It is hairy. The hairs are simple. The stems are erect. The leaves have 10-15 pairs of oblong leaflets. The leaflets have a notch at the tip. The leaflets have a few hairs underneath. The flowers are yellow. They are 12-14 mm long. They are on stalks half as long as the leaves. The pod is oblong and triangle shaped in cross section. They are 20-40 mm long. The pods have a groove underneath and a beak at the end.

HABITAT

It grows in Mediterranean climate places. It grows below 1,150 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed.

NOTES

There are 2,000 Astragalus species.

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