PLANT FACT SHEET

Chondrodendron tomentosum Ruiz. & Pav.

GENUS *Chondrodendron* **FAMILY** Menispermaceae

COMMON NAMES Wild grape, Curare

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are eaten and have a bitter sweet taste.
Caution: The roots are used for poisons. They contain curare that paralyses muscles. The poison has to get into the blood stream to work.

DESCRIPTION

A large creeper. It can grow 30 m high and spread widely. The trunk is hairy. It can be 10 cm across. The leaves are oval or rounded. They can be heart shaped. They are alternate. They are 20 cm long. The leaves underneath and the leaf stalks are woolly. The flowers are separately male and female on separate plants. They are small and green-white. The fruit are fleshy and oval. They are 1-2 mm long.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It needs a temperature above 15-18°C. It grows in the top of the rainforest. It needs a moist, rich soils. It needs a sunny location. It is damaged by drought and frost.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown by seeds or cuttings.

NOTES

The stems and roots are used in medicine.

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