PLANT FACT SHEET

Pelargonium incrassatum (Andrews) Sims

GENUS *Pelargonium* **FAMILY** Geraniaceae

COMMON NAMES Namaqualand beauty

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Tubers, Roots

The peeled tubers are eaten raw, cooked in milk or baked in hot ashes. They are a staple food.

DESCRIPTION

A small shrub which keeps growing from year to year. It grows 30 cm high. It forms tubers and is dormant in the summer or dry season. The tuber is turnip shaped. The leaves at the base are in rings and have long stems. They have silver hairs. The leaves are 5 cm long and have leaflets along the stalk. The stems can have 10-20 or more flowers. These are deep pink. They are 18 mm across. The lower petals are much reduced.

HABITAT

It is a Mediterranean plant. It can grow in hot arid places with a marked dry season. The dry season can be 6-11 months. It grows in stony soil. It grows between 650-1,500 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places. It suits hardiness zones 9-11.

NOTES

There are about 230 Pelargonium species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/27411df2-2ae3-432d-8a83-ea991261e1b6