PLANT FACT SHEET

Astragalus crassicarpus Nutt.

GENUS *Astragalus* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Ground plum, Buffalo bean, Buffalo pea, Groundplum milk-vetch

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: pod, Fruit

The unripe fruit or pods are edible raw or cooked.
The pods can be cooked as spices for pickles.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It grows 50 cm tall. It is a bean plant that keeps growing from year to year. The stems lie along the ground and it forms mats. It has branches near the base. The leaves are compound with 17-25 leaflets. They are oblong. They are smooth above and hairy underneath. The flowers are yellowish-white with a purple tinged keel. They are 2 cm long. Several flowers occur in loose clusters. The fruit are reddish fleshy pods. They are round and 2 cm across.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows in open prairie and dry grassy hillsides. It grows in hardiness zones 3-8.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. Seeds can have hard seed coats that need to be broken.

NOTES

There are 2,000 Astragalus species.

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PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/2b72dfb0-a022-4b71-aa79-2c0bdc863d29