PLANT FACT SHEET

Use with caution

This plant can be harmful if it is eaten raw, in large amounts or without the right preparation. Read the whole fact sheet before use.

Eleusine africana Kenn.-O'Byrne

GENUS *Eleusine* **FAMILY** Poaceae

COMMON NAMES African goose grass, African finger millet

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Cereal

Caution: It can contain prussic acid.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It is an annual millet grass that forms tussocks. It grows 1 m tall. The leaves are mostly near the base. The leaf blades are 5-35 cm long by 3-6 mm wide. The flower is made up of 3-17 finger like racemes. They are 4-17 cm long. The spikelets have fertile 309 fertile flowers. The seeds are 1.2-1.6 mm long and black.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in dry soils. It grows between 330-2,400 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places. It can be in damp sandy soils near rivers. In Zimbabwe it grows between 1,490-1,910 m above sea level. It germinates best at temperatures of 23°C.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Plants grow quickly.

NOTES

There are 9 Eleusine species. Probably edible.
It has been confused with Eleusine indica in records.

REFERENCES

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PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/2c56995f-d3e7-462d-95d9-2823c2754ce6