



PLANT FACT SHEET

Aeschynomene nilotica Taub.

GENUS *Aeschynomene* FAMILY Fabaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Vegetable

The leaves are eaten when fresh.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub. It has thick stems. It grows 2 m high. It floats in deep water and roots in the soil in shallow water. Young stems are slightly hairy. The leaves have 24-80 leaflets. The leaflets are 5-25 mm long by 1-5 mm wide. There are very fine teeth along the edge. There are 3-8 flowers in a group in the axils of leaves. The standard is yellow. The fruit is a pod 2-9 cm long. It is narrow and straight. It has 4-9 joints. The seeds are dark reddish-brown. They are 7 mm long by 4 mm wide and 1 mm thick.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows on the edge of water and near swamps. In southern Africa it grows between 850-1,050 m altitude.

NOTES

There are 150 *Aeschynomene* species.

REFERENCES

Burkill, H. M., 1985, The useful plants of west tropical Africa, Vol. 3. Kew.
Flora Zambesiaca. <http://apps.kew.org/efloras>
Global Plants JSTOR

Grubben, G. J. H. and Denton, O. A. (eds), 2004, Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 2. Vegetables. PROTA, Wageningen, Netherlands. p 559
Hepper,
Larson, T. J., 1970, Hambukushu Ethno-botany. Botswana Notes and Records. Vol 13.

PROVIDED BY Food Plants International

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET <https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/2d51f3ea-7d1a-4a2b-8f1b-cb1e606905e9>