PLANT FACT SHEET

Malva pusilla Smith

GENUS *Malva* **FAMILY** Malvaceae

COMMON NAMES Dwarf mallow

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Seeds, Fruit, Stems, flower - nectar

The young fruit are eaten raw.
The leaves are used in soups and salads.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It can grow each year from seeds or keep growing for 2 years. It has long tough taproots. The stems can be 50 cm long. The leaves are alternate along the stem. They are an oval shaped and have teeth along the edge. The flowers have 5 petals and are white or pink. There are 8-10 seeds for each flower.

HABITAT

It is a temperate climate plant. It grows in grassland. It is best in moist fertile soil and in a sunny position. In Sichuan and Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds. Seeds need a temperature of 15-20°C to germinate.

NOTES

There are about 30 Malva species.

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