PLANT FACT SHEET

Calyptrotheca somalensis Gilg

GENUS *Calyptrotheca* **FAMILY** Portulacaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Sap, Root sap - thirst

The sap is used for drink.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub. It lies along the ground. The stems and leaves are succulent. It grows 3 m high. It has a large fleshy, tuberous rootstock. The leaves are oval with wavy edges. They are 2.5 cm long by 1-3 cm wide. The flowers are greenish or white. They are 4-20 in a cluster. They are at the ends of the small branches. The fruit are oval and yellow. They are 1 cm long and have 1 seed. The seed is black with a red, loved aril.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in dry soils. It grows in areas with an annual rainfall above 400 mm. It can grow in arid places.

REFERENCES

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World Checklist of Useful Plant Species 2020. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

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

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/34932813-6dff-402e-9ca2-8486c987121b