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.

Dysosma pleiantha (Hance) Woodson

GENUS *Dysosma* **FAMILY** Berberidaceae

COMMON NAMES Chinese may apple

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The ripe fruit are possibly eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It keeps growing from year to year. It grows 45 cm high and spreads 30 cm wide. It forms clumps. Each plant has a single stem and one or two large leaves at the top. These have 6-10 shallow lobes. The leaves are umbrella shaped and 30-40 cm wide. The flowers are in a cluster from the axil of the leaf. The flowers are deep red. The fruit are like berries. They can be yellow or red.

HABITAT

It is a warm temperate plant. It cannot tolerate frost. It can grow in light shade. It is best in moist acid soil. In southern China it grows between 400-1,600 m above sea level. It suits hardiness zones 6-8. In Sichuan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds. They also spread by rhizomes or underground stems.

NOTES

The roots have been used as an anticancer agent.

REFERENCES

Ferns, Plants For A Future
World Flora on LIne

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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/3756f5e2-dd68-4e1a-8325-fdbc64762c87