PLANT FACT SHEET

Dicliptera laxata C. B. Clarke

GENUS *Dicliptera* **FAMILY** Acanthaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Vegetable

The leaves are used as a vegetable. The tender leaves are cooked and coconut milk or ground peanuts are added.

DESCRIPTION

A straggling herb or small shrub. It keeps growing from year to year. It grows 1-5 m tall. The leaves are opposite and narrowly oval. They taper towards both ends. They are dark green. The flowers are in stalked clusters. There are a rind of green floral bracts around them. Each flower has 2 bracts. The flowers are tube shaped and white or pink. There are purple streaks. The fruit is an oval capsule about 1 cm long. It has 4 round black seeds.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in the high forest often in deep shade. It grows between 1,500-2,300 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

Leaves are harvested in the rainy season. The leaves can be dried and stored for a year.

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