PLANT FACT SHEET

Brassica rapa subsp. silvestris (Lam.) Janchen

GENUS *Brassica* **FAMILY** Brassicaceae

COMMON NAMES Wild Turnip, Bird rape

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Root

The very young tender leaves can be cooked and eaten.
The swollen roots can be cooked and eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A cabbage family herb. It grows for one or two years. The plant can grow to 70-100 cm tall. It has a thickened taproot. The stems branch. The stems do not have hairs. The leaves occur singly up the stem. The leaves are lobed. In young plants there are 'warts' on the leaf surface. The leaves initially develop in a ring. They have stalks and are covered in bristles. In older plants the leaves clasp the stem. The flowers are at the top of the plant. The flowers are 15 mm across. They have 4 bright yellow petals. The fruit is dry and long. It has a narrow beak.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant.

NOTES

There are about 30 Brassica species and many cultivated varieties.

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