PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Alocasia cucullata* (Louriero) G. Don

**GENUS** *Alocasia* **FAMILY** Araceae

**COMMON NAMES** Chinese taro

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Corms, Tubers, Leaves, Roots, Vegetable

The corms are eaten as a cooked vegetable.
The young leaves are eaten as a vegetable.

## DESCRIPTION

A herb. It is a plant with a tuber and it keeps growing from year to year. It can grow for only one year. It grows to 1.5 m high. The stem can be 50 cm long and 5 cm wide. The leaf stalk is 1 m long. The leaf stalk joins the leaf blade at the edge. The leaf is glossy and oval to heart shaped. It only has short lobes at the base. It is green. The leaf blade is 40 cm long by 28 cm wide. It forms suckers freely. The flowers have a spathe 9-15 cm long.

## HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in the lowlands in open, wet locations. It is one of the more cold hardy Alocasias. Cairns Botanical Garden. In XTBG Yunnan. In Sichuan.

## PRODUCTION

### Cultivation

It is grown by division of the clump or from offsets. It can also be grown from seed.

## NOTES

There are about 60-70 Alocasia species.

## PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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