PLANT FACT SHEET

Gentiana punctata L.

GENUS *Gentiana* **FAMILY** Gentianaceae

COMMON NAMES Spotted gentian

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Roots - flavouring

The roots are sometimes used in the manufacture of gentian bitters.

DESCRIPTION

A small plant. It grows 60 cm high and spreads 30 cm wide. There are a clump of leaves at the base. There is a stout taproot which develops an upright stem. The leaves at the base are 10 cm long and the leaves on the stem are smaller. The flowers occur in clusters at the tips of stems and in the axils of leaves. They are pale yellow with purple spots. They are 30 mm long.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows in the high mountains in Europe. It suits hardiness zones 5-9.

NOTES

There are about 400 Gentiana species.

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