PLANT FACT SHEET

Ichnocarpus frutescens (L.) R. Brown

GENUS *Ichnocarpus* **FAMILY** Apocynaceae

COMMON NAMES Black creeper

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The ripe fruit are eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A trailing shrub or woody climber. It grows 4-8 m high. The stems are long and twining. The young growth has rusty hairs. The leaves are stalked. They are 2.8-10 cm long by 0.8-6 cm wide. They are oval or sword shaped. They are dark green above and hairy underneath. The flowers are white and have a scent. They occur in leafy flat topped flower arrangements in axils of leaves or at the ends of branches. The fruit is a many seeded fruit. It is slender and cylindrical. It is 8-12 cm long by 1-1.5 cm wide. The seeds are very slender and 1-2 cm long.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It can also grow in warm temperate regions. In Nepal it grows between 150-900 m altitude. In northern Australia it grows from sea level to 720 m altitude. It grows in open as well as shady places. It needs a well drained soil. It can tolerate moderate frosts. In Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

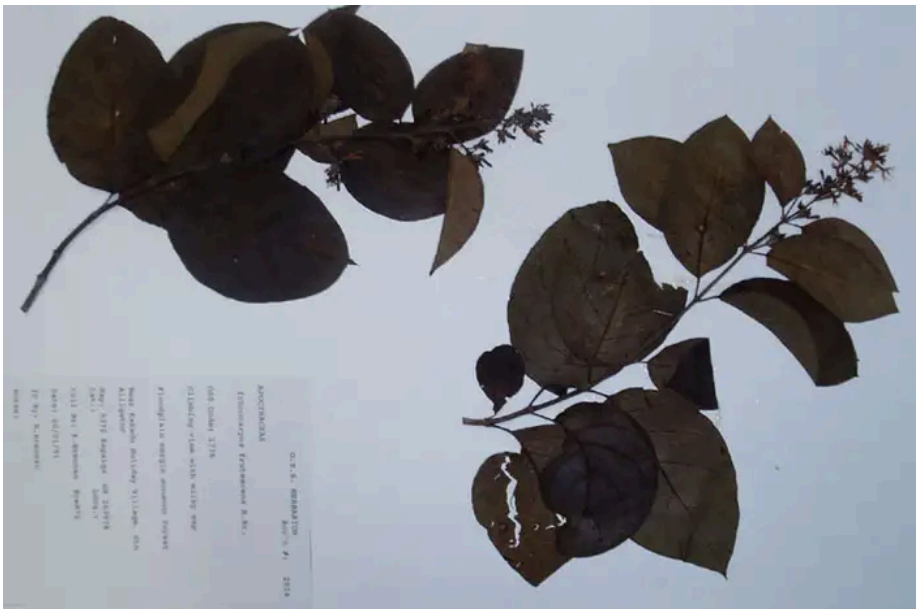
Cultivation

Plants are grown by seed or cuttings.

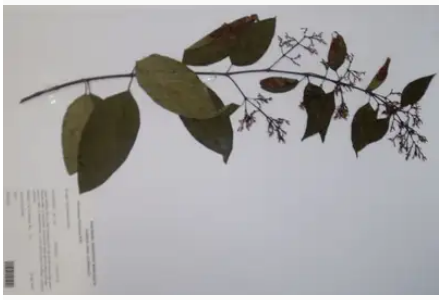
NOTES

There are about 12-18 Ichnocarpus species. It is used in medicine.

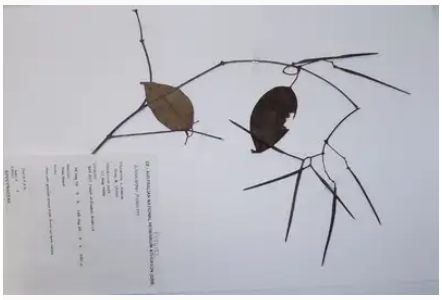
PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/44f0567f-6264-4c0d-95a6-355da6a06a01