PLANT FACT SHEET

Persicaria pulchra (Blume) Sojak

GENUS *Persicaria* **FAMILY** Polygonaceae

COMMON NAMES Watersmart weed

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Leaves - flavouring

The leaves are used in salads. The leaves are cooked and eaten as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

A creeping herb that grows in water. It has hollow stems. It roots at the nodes. It can be 2 m long. Much of the plant is under water. The leaves are very hairy. They are sword shaped and taper to the tip. They sheath the stem at the base. The flowers are small and white. The occur in clusters which are erect and nodding.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It occurs widely throughout the tropics. It grows in marshes and roadside ditches. It grows in wet grass savannah. It grows between 100-300 m above sea level.

NOTES

There are about 50 Polygonum species.

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