PLANT FACT SHEET

Mussaenda roxburghii Hook. f.

GENUS *Mussaenda* **FAMILY** Rubiaceae

COMMON NAMES Himalayan mussaenda

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Flowers, Fruit

The young leaves are eaten as a vegetable. They are boiled.
The white bract is fried and used as a vegetable.
The ripe fruit is eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub. It grows 3 m tall. The leaves are oblong to sword shaped with a long tip. There are bristly hairs on the midrib underneath. The flowers are in dense clusters 5 cm across. There are 5 sepals of which 4 are small and one is large and white like a leaf. The flower tube is narrow and 3-4 cm long. The petals are bright orange inside and white outside. The fruit are oblong berries. They are smooth and have a crown of sepals.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. In Sikkim it grows between 1,200-1,800 m above sea level.

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