PLANT FACT SHEET

Bauhinia viridescens Desv.

GENUS *Bauhinia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Sampoe chhe

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Fruit, Flower

The young leaves and fruit are eaten in salads with fish sauce.
Young pods are also eaten.
The flowers are used as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

An erect shrub. It grows 1-4 m tall. The branches are thin and smooth. The leaves are divided at the tip into 2 lobes. They are red when young and become green when mature. There is a small triangle shaped stipule at the base of the leaf. The leaves are 7-15 cm long by 10-15 cm wide. The leaf stalk is 3-5 cm long. The flowering arrangements are at the top of the plant in the axils of the leaves. These are 5-15 cm long. The flowers are greenish. Male and female flowers are separate. The fruit are flat pods 5-7 cm long and 1 cm wide. There are 6-10 flat seeds. These are 3 mm wide.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in the tropical lowlands. In Yunnan.

NOTES

There are about 250-350 Bauhinia species. Most are in the tropics. Also as Caesalpinaceae.

REFERENCES

Ann. Sci. Nat. (Paris) 9:429. 1826
Phon, P., 2000, Plants used in Cambodia. © Pauline Dy Phon, Phnom Penh, Cambodia. p 92
Tanaka, Y & Van Ke, N., 2007, Edible Wild Plants of Vietnam. Orchid Press. p 77

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/4abb2020-6dd1-46ee-9eff-af3016c70b62