PLANT FACT SHEET

Use with caution

This plant can be harmful if it is eaten raw, in large amounts or without the right preparation. Read the whole fact sheet before use.

Raphionacme hirsuta (E. Mey.) R. A. Dyer

GENUS *Raphionacme* **FAMILY** Apocynaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Tuber, Root, Fruit

The underground tuber is mixed with sugar and brewed to make beer.
Caution: It may be poisonous.
The fruit are eaten as a snack.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It forms a large, flattened round tuber. Several short forked shoots develop from this. These are less than 15 cm long. They have a few pairs of leaves that have short stalks. The leaf blades are 5 cm long by 2 cm wide. The midrib is easy to see. The flowers are low down on the branches. They are purple and slightly hairy.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. In Swaziland it grows only in the highveld.

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