PLANT FACT SHEET

Polygonatum odoratum (Mill.) Druce

GENUS *Polygonatum* **FAMILY** Asparagaceae

COMMON NAMES Angular Solomon's Seal, Sweet scented Solomon's seal

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Root

The young shoots are parboiled then eaten like asparagus. They are also added to soups.
The dried rhizomes are eaten raw or cooked. They are used in dishes and for bread.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It has rhizomes or underground stems. They are 5-14 mm thick. The stem arches over. It is 20-50 cm high. It is angled. There are 7-12 leaves which are alternate. The leaf stalk is short. The leaf blade is oval and 5-12 cm long by 3-6 cm wide. It tapers to the tip. The flowering stalk has 1-4 flowers. The flowers hang down. They are yellowish green. The fruit is a berry which is blue black. It is 7-10 mm across and has 7-9 seeds.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows in forests and shaded slopes between 500-3000 m altitude in N China. It suits hardiness zones 3-9. In Sichuan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown by division.

NOTES

There are about 50 Polygonatum species.
Also put in the family Convallariaceae.

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