PLANT FACT SHEET

Herpetospermum operculatum K. Pradheep, A. Pendley, K. C. Bhatt & E. R. Nayar

GENUS *Herpetospermum* **FAMILY** Cucurbitaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves

The leaves are used in soup.

DESCRIPTION

A pumpkin family vine. It is a climber and grows 10 m long. It has tendrils with 4 branches. The stems are slender and angular. Young shoots are densely hairy. The leaves are heart shaped to triangular and have 5 lobes. The fruit stalk is 6-7 cm long. The fruit are smooth and oblong and have yellow stripes. It has a cap at the end. They have 24 seeds.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. It grows between 1,500-3,000 m above sea level in the Himalayas.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Nagaland leaves are harvested June to November.

NOTES

Not in The Plant List.

REFERENCES

Pradheep, K., et al, 2014, Herpetospermum operculatum (Schizopeponeae, Cucurbitaceae) a new species from India, Myanmar and China. Blumea 59, 2014:1-5

Pradheep, K., et al, 2016, Wild edible plants used by Konyak tribe in Mon district of Nagaland: Survey and inventorisation. Indian Journal of Natural Products and Resources. Vol 7(1) pp 74-81

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