PLANT FACT SHEET

Aciphylla colensoi Hook. f.

GENUS *Aciphylla* **FAMILY** Apiaceae

COMMON NAMES Wild Spaniard, Colenso's spaniard

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Gum, Leaves, Root

The root is cooked and eaten.
It yields a gum used as a chewing gum.

DESCRIPTION

A perennial plant. It grows 90 cm - 2.4 m high. It spreads 1.2-1.8 m wide. The leaves are 50 cm long and usually divided into leaflets along the stalk. These segments are 20 cm long and 12 mm wide. Male and female flowers usually occur on separate plants. The flower stems are narrow and 2.4 m tall with cream flowers.

HABITAT

It grows naturally in New Zealand in mountain and sub-alpine altitudes in North and South Islands between latitudes 38° and 43° 30' south. It prefers a well drained gritty soil. It does best where damp air is common. Once established they can stand temperatures down to -10°C. It suits hardiness zones 5-9.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed. Seed are slow to germinate. They can be transplanted when small.

NOTES

There are about 40 Aciphylla species.

REFERENCES

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Plants for a Future database, The Field, Penpol, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, PL22 0NG, UK. http://www.scs.leeds.ac.uk/pfaf/

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/505ea1ee-7cdb-4dc8-864c-d06b9aed3c1e