PLANT FACT SHEET

Canarina canariensis (L.) Vatke

GENUS *Canarina* **FAMILY** Campanulaceae

COMMON NAMES Bicacaro, Canary Island bellflower

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Roots, Shoots, Leaves

The fleshy capsule, roots and young shoots are eaten.
The ripe fruit are eaten raw or made into preserves.

DESCRIPTION

A fleshy climber. It can climb 3 m high. It has thick, tuberous roots. The stems are fleshy and branching. The leaves are opposite. The leaves are broad and wedge shaped. They taper to the tip. There are irregular lobes along the edge. They are 4-8 cm long. There are fine teeth along the edge. The flowers are bell shaped and hang down. They are orange to red with darker veins. They are 3-6 cm long. They have 6 petal lobes which curl back. The flower are in the upper axils of leaves. The fruit are black berries. They are edible.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. It grows naturally in Tenerife in the Canary islands. It grows in shady ravines and woodland. It suits hardiness zones 9-11.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed planted as soon as they are ripe. It needs a temperature of 15-22°C. It can be grown from cuttings of the base.

NOTES

There are 3 Canarina species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/508946fe-4e70-4173-8e88-acf47dd532bd