PLANT FACT SHEET

Solanum elaeagnifolium Cav.

GENUS *Solanum* **FAMILY** Solanaceae

COMMON NAMES Silver-leaf nightshade

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds

The crushed fruit is used to curdle cheese.
CAUTION: The fruit are claimed to be poisonous.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It keeps growing from year to year. It is covered with a greyish white down. The stems can be 1 m high. They may have a few slender prickles. The leaves are oblong or sword shaped. They are 5-10 cm long. The edges are wavy. The whitish down is thicker under the leaf. The flowers are large and violet or blue. They are 2 cm across. The flowers have 5 petal like lobes that are joined at the tip of each lobe. The first flowers are at the ends then later flowers in the axils of leaves. The stamens are yellow. The fruit are like small tomatoes. They are 1 cm across.

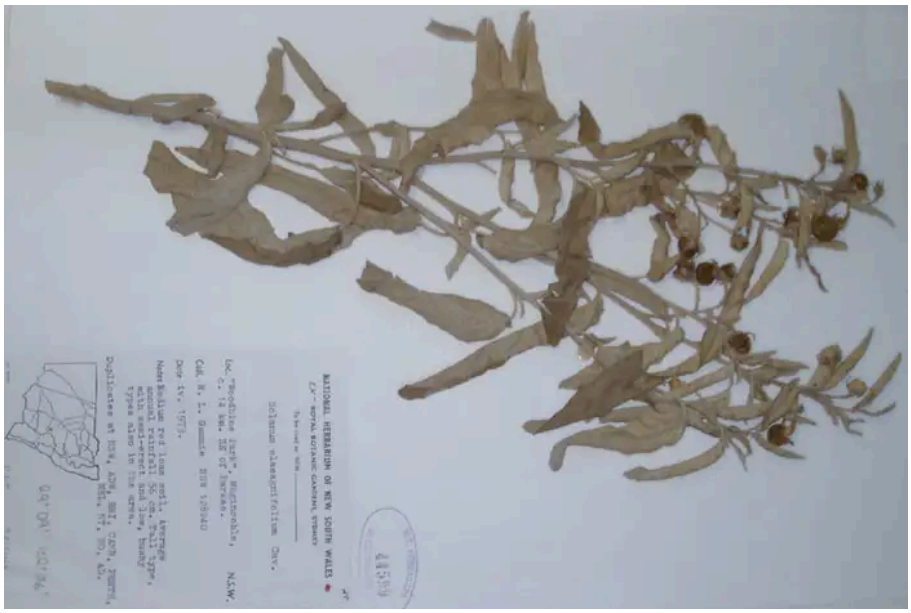
HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in tropical America. In Pakistan it grows up to 1,800 m altitude. In Argentina it grows between 200-3,300 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places.

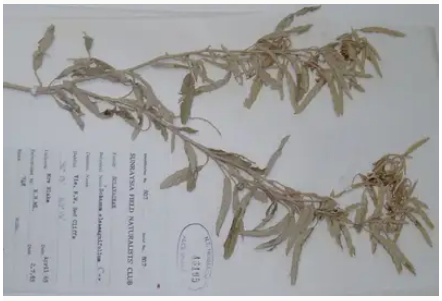
NOTES

There are about 1400 Solanum species. It contains solasidine used in medicine.

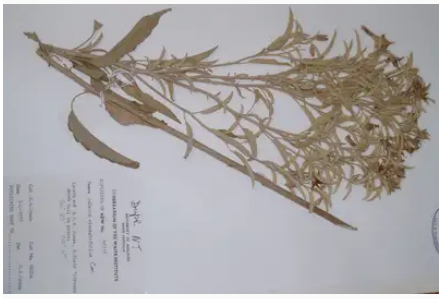
PICTURES



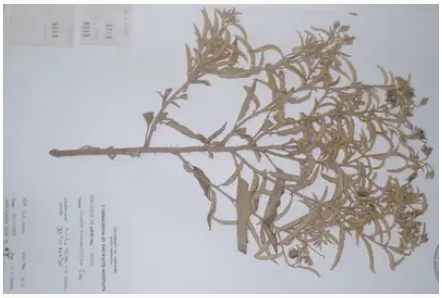
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