PLANT FACT SHEET

Reynoutria multiflora (Thunb.) Moldenke

GENUS *Reynoutria* **FAMILY** Polygonaceae

COMMON NAMES Climbing knotweed, Chinese cornbind, Flowery knotweed

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Flowers, Leaves, Root, Rhizome, Seeds

The roots are washed, sliced, soaked overnight and boiled in changes of water to remove the bitter principle then washed, steamed, re-boiled and eaten. They are used in tonic soups, porridges and wines.
The large underground rhizome is used as a food and medicine.
The flowers are also eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A twining woody climber. It keeps growing from year to year. It is 3-4 m long. The stems are woody near the base. It loses its leaves during the year. It has large tuberous rhizomes. The stems are red when young. The leaves are light green and oval. The leaves are alternate and have a leaf stalk. The blade is oval and 5-7 cm long by 3-5 cm wide. It tapers to a point at the end. The flowers are small and white or pink. They are in slender panicles or groups at the ends of branches. These can be 20-24 cm long. The fruit have 3 wings. It is a dry black 3 sided seed.

HABITAT

A subtropical plant. In Sichuan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed. They can also be grown from cuttings or by division of the tuber.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Tubers are collected from plants that are 3-4 years old.

NOTES

It is used in medicine. There are about 7 Fallopia species.

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