PLANT FACT SHEET

Malva moschata L.

GENUS *Malva* **FAMILY** Malvaceae

COMMON NAMES Musk mallow, Cut-leaf Mallow

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Flowers, Leaves, Seeds

The young shoots are cooked as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

A herb which keeps growing from year to year. It grows 60-100 cm high and spreads 45 cm wide. The leaves are mid green and narrow and finely cut. They are divided like fingers on a hand. They have a musk smell when crushed. The flowers are saucer shaped and rose-pink. They occur singly in the axils of the upper leaves. The petals are 20-35 mm long and twice as long as the sepals. The fruit are nutlets with long white hairs.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It usually grows on dry fertile soil. It needs an open sunny position. It is resistant to frost and drought. In Argentina it grows from sea level to 700 m above sea level. It suits hardiness zones 3-10. Tasmania Herbarium.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown by seed or division.

NOTES

There are about 30 Malva species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/55cee697-085f-4e0e-b55e-aeb0b9428d4b