PLANT FACT SHEET

Decorsea schlechteri (Harms) Verdc.

GENUS *Decorsea* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Root, Tuber

The seeds are eaten fresh or boiled.
The tubers are washed and peeled and cut into pieces then boiled or roasted. Young tubers are eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A twining herb. It keeps growing from year to year. It climbs up to 3 m tall. The stems are slender. It grows from a large tuber. The leaves are compound. The leaves have 3 leaflets. They have leaflets along the stalk and one at the end. The leaves are broadly triangle shaped. They are 7.5 cm long by 3.5 cm wide. The flowers appear before the leaves. They are blue or pink. They are like pea flowers. They have a light yellow twisted keel. The fruit is a pod. It is narrow and 8-12 cm long by 5 mm wide. It is curved at the tip. It has a pointed beak.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows on gravel and Kalahari sand. It grows in hot dry woodland. In Zimbabwe it grows up to 1,200 m above sea level. It grows in grass and bush at low and medium altitudes.

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