PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Asarum caudatum* Lindl.

**GENUS** *Asarum* **FAMILY** Aristolochiaceae

**COMMON NAMES** Wild ginger, Long-tailed wild ginger

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Roots, Spice, Leaves - tea

The rootstocks used fresh or dried and powdered as a ginger substitute.
The leaves are also used for tea.

## DESCRIPTION

A herb with thick creeping rootstocks which produce new shoots. It grows 8-10 cm high and spreads 80-100 cm wide. Each shoot has 2 leaves and a flower. The leaves are heart shaped. The flowers are often hidden below the flowers. The flower is purplish-brown. It has 3 lobes drawn out into 5 cm long tails.

## HABITAT

It is a warm temperate plant. It is native to the west coast of North America. It grows in moist shaded woods. It grows up to 1520 m altitude. It is best in humus-rich, moist soils. It is frost resistant but drought tender. It suits hardiness zones 7-9.

## PRODUCTION

### Cultivation

Plants can be grown by seeds of division of the rhizome.

## NOTES

Asarum are mainly temperate in the Northern hemisphere.

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