



PLANT FACT SHEET

Neonotonia wightii (Wight & Arn.) Lackey

GENUS *Neonotonia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Robust pioneer creeper, Kudzu vine, Perennial soybean

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Vegetable, Tubers, Root

The leaves are cooked and eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A climbing or trailing bean plant. It is a herb that keeps growing from year to year. The stems are woody at the base. Plants can be 4.5 m long. The stems can be covered with rusty hairs. The leaves have 3 leaflets. The leaflets are oval and 2-15 cm long by 1-13 cm wide. They are oval and rounded at the base. They are hairy on both surfaces. The leaf stalks are 2-12 cm long. The flower cluster can have 20 to 150 flowers. The flower standard is reddish blue and can have white patches. The fruit are oblong pods 2-4 cm long and 2-5 mm wide. They can have rusty coloured hairs. The pods are somewhat restricted between the seeds. The seeds are reddish brown and oblong. They are 2-4 mm long and 1.5-2.8 mm wide. They have a finely rough surface.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. In Papua New Guinea it grows between 1500-1650 m altitude. It needs an annual rainfall of 750-1525 mm. It needs good quality soils. In Argentina it grows below 500 m above sea level.

NOTES

It is being used as a tropical pasture legume.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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