PLANT FACT SHEET

Leichhardtia viridiflora subsp. tropica R.Br., Forster,

GENUS *Leichhardtia* **FAMILY** Apocynaceae

COMMON NAMES Native potato, Bush banana, Green-flowered Milk Vine, Magabala

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds

The fruit are eaten raw.
The roots have probably also been cooked and eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A straggling climber. The stems are strongly twining. It grows 1-3 m tall. The young growth is bright green and with a few hairs. The leaves are 6-9.5 cm long by 1-2 cm wide. They are narrowly oval. They are dark green and shiny above and paler underneath. They are leathery and with light coloured veins. The flowers are grouped in the axils of leaves. There are a few flowers and they hang down. The flowers are 1-1.5 cm across. They are green to cream. The flowers are hairy towards the centre. The fruit are many seeded and 5-7 cm long by 2-3 cm wide. They are narrowly oval.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in northern Australia. It grows in open forest and woodland. Plants can die back in the dry season. It needs well drained soil and a sunny position. In northern Australia it grows from sea level to 760 m altitude.

PRODUCTION

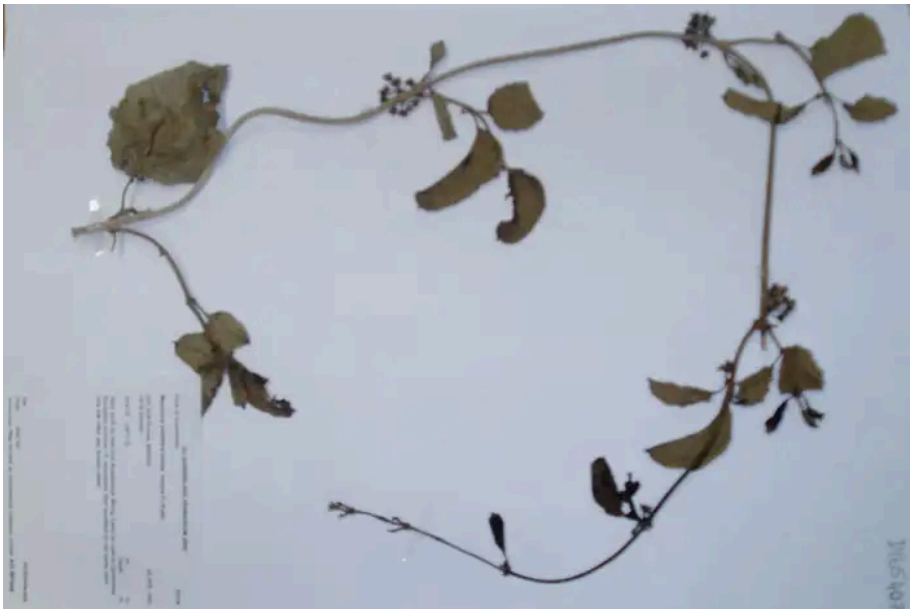
Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed or cuttings.

NOTES

There are about 25 Marsdenia species. They are mostly tropical.

PICTURES



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