PLANT FACT SHEET

Edibility uncertain
It has not been confirmed that this plant is safe to eat. Do not eat it on the strength of this fact sheet alone.

Cissus repanda (Wight & Arn.) Vahl.

GENUS *Cissus* **FAMILY** Vitaceae

COMMON NAMES Gendal

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Stems - water, Fruit, Leaves, Vegetable, Tuber

The stems are cut to release water to drink.
The ripe fruit are eaten fresh.
The young leaves and shoots are cooked as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

A large climber. It sheds its leaves. The stems are soft and have holes. The stems are 15 cm across. The stem climbs 24 m high in trees. The tendrils are forked. The leaves are roundish and deeply cut at the base. They are oval to heart shaped. They taper towards the tip. There are teeth with sharp points. There are rusty hairs underneath when young. The leaves are 7.5-12.5 cm long and 10-15 cm across and have 5-7 angles. The flowers are cream or red. They are 2.5 mm long. They occur in slender flat topped arrangements. The fruit are pear shaped. They are 8-12 mm long. There is a knob at the tip. They have one seed.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. It grows in semi-evergreen jungles. In Nepal these are at 1400-2500 m altitude. They grow in open, rocky places. In Sikkim it is recorded between 400-800 m above sea level. In Sichuan and Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In India plants flower and fruit in April to June.

NOTES

There are about 200-350 Cissus species. There are about 75 species in tropical America.

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