PLANT FACT SHEET

Cynanchum otophyllum Schneider

GENUS *Cynanchum* **FAMILY** Apocynaceae

COMMON NAMES Taoist goat shen

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Root

The root is boiled with pork.

DESCRIPTION

A vine. It has milky sap. It keeps growing from year to year. It has tufts of cylinder shaped roots. These are greyish-black on the outside. They are 8 mm across. The leaves are broadly sword shaped and 7-10 cm long by 4-8 cm wide. They taper to the tip and are heart shaped at the base. They have a grey covering on both surfaces. The flowers are white. They are in clusters in the axils of leaves. The fruit are long follicles 8 cm long by 1 cm wide. The seeds are oval.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows in south-western China on grassy hillsides between 1,400-2,800 m altitude. In Sichuan and Yunnan.

NOTES

The roots are used in medicine.

REFERENCES

Hu, Shiu-ying, 2005, Food Plants of China. The Chinese University Press. p 634

Lim, T. K., 2015, Edible Medicinal and Non Medicinal Plants. Volume 9, Modified Stems, Roots, Bulbs. Springer p 31

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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