PLANT FACT SHEET

Use with caution

This plant can be harmful if it is eaten raw, in large amounts or without the right preparation. Read the whole fact sheet before use.

Paspalum scrobiculatum L.

GENUS *Paspalum* **FAMILY** Poaceae

COMMON NAMES Kodo millet, Creeping paspalum

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Cereal

The seed is used after careful washing to remove a fungal infection from the grain. (Ergot)
The mature grain matured for 6 months should be used as new grain is poisonous. Non toxic forms need to be selected.
It is cooked and used like rice. It can be popped like corn.
It is used for fermenented cakes,

DESCRIPTION

A millet grass. It is an annual or perennial grass. It has short rhizomes. The stems are tufted. It grows up to 1 m high. The leaves are in two rows. The leaf blade is long and flat. It is 45 cm long by 2.5 cm across. The flower stalk has 2-5 alternate spikes. These do not have stalks. Several varieties are recognised. The kind cultivated for seeds is used as an annual and has larger seeds. The grain is in a hard husk which is difficult to remove.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows throughout the tropics. Although it grows in ditches best seeds are produced from dry land. It is hardy and drought resistant. It will grow on poor gravelly soils. It grows from sea level to 2,900 m above sea level. It grows in areas with an annual rainfall of up to 900 mm. It can grow in arid places.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

The crop matures in 4-6 months. Yields can be 250-1,000 kg per hectare. Light red grains are sweet and dark kinds are bitter.

NOTES

Grain 10.6% protein.There are about 330 Paspalum species.

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