PLANT FACT SHEET

Acalypha glabrata Thunb.

GENUS *Acalypha* **FAMILY** Euphorbiaceae

COMMON NAMES Forest false-nettle, Silky-berry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Stem - vegetable

The young leaves are cooked and eaten as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

It can be a shrub 1 m tall or a tree 12 m tall. It has many stems from the base and flexible branches. The bark is smooth with small raised dots. The leaves vary in size depending on rainfall. They can be 0.8-1.3 cm long or 8 cm long. They are sword shaped and papery, Sometimes the leaves are widest at the base. The leaf stalks can be 8 cm long. The surface of the leaves crinkles soon after picking. Sometimes the branches have spines. The male and female flowers are usually carried on the same spike. They are small and greenish-yellow. The fruit is a 3 celled capsule and the seed round.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. It occurs in savannah woodland and stream banks. It grows in hot arid places. It grows between 5-1,400 m above sea level.

NOTES

There are over 450 Acalypha species. They are tropical. There are 225 in tropical America.

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/6885b289-564f-4711-9c1b-49771add1880