PLANT FACT SHEET

Didymocarpus villosus D. Don

GENUS *Didymocarpus* **FAMILY** Gesneriaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves

The tender stems are cooked as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It grows 15 cm high. The leaf stalk is 1-16 mm long. The leaves are oval and wedge shaped. The leaf blade is 2.5-7.2 cm long by 2-5 cm wide. There are soft hairs on the upper surface. The flowers are purple. They occur in many flowered flat topped arrangements. The fruit is a capsule. The tip is curved.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. In Nepal it grows at 1000-2400 m altitude. In China it grows on stony cliffs in valleys between 2,100-2,700 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It is grown by seeds or by splitting the rhizome.

NOTES

There are about 180 Didymocarpus species.

REFERENCES

Wang Wentsai, Pan Kaiyu, Li Zhenyu, Weitzmann, A.L., Skog, L.E., Gesneraceae. Flora of China p

Manandhar, N.P., 2002, Plants and People of Nepal. Timber Press. Portland, Oregon. p 201

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