PLANT FACT SHEET

Koenigia alaskana (Small) T. M. Schust. & Reveal

GENUS *Koenigia* **FAMILY** Polygonaceae

COMMON NAMES Alaskan wild rhubarb

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Seeds, Stem

The shoots are eaten fresh like celery or used as greens or made into pies or sauce.
The stems are harvested when young and stripped and cut and made into dishes like rhubarb.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It can grow 2 m tall. The root is thick and woody. It keeps growing from year to year. The leaves are soft and can have fine hairs. The leaves are narrow and oval and up to 20 cm long. The leaves are paler green underneath. The flowers are small and white or cream but in showy clusters. The fruit are small light brown seed pods.

HABITAT

It is a cold temperate or arctic plant. It grows along river banks.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown by seeds. It can also be grown by cuttings.

Harvesting and Seed Production

The young shoots about 15-30 cm tall are collected in spring.

NOTES

There are about 50 (150) Polygonum species.

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

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