PLANT FACT SHEET

Larryleachia marlothii (N. E. Br.) Plowes

GENUS *Larryleachia* **FAMILY** Apocynaceae

COMMON NAMES Marloth's lavrinia

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Stems

The stems are used as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

A herb or shrub that lies along the ground. It is succulent and keeps growing from year to year. It grows 15 cm high. The stems are 3-15 cm long and 2-6 cm thick. The flowers are in the upper parts of the stems. They are in groups of 1-5. They are yellow with red or purple marks. They are saucer shaped. The fruit are long, horn like pods.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. It grows in hot arid places. It grows in places with a marked dry season. The dry season can be 6-11 months. It grows in well-drained sandy soils and amongst rocks. In southern Africa it grows below 1,000 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places.

NOTES

Also put in the family Asclepiadaceae.

REFERENCES

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (1999). Survey of Economic Plants for Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (SEPASAL) database. Published on the Internet; http://www.rbgkew.org.uk/ceb/sepasal/internet [Accessed 30th March 2011]

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