PLANT FACT SHEET

Vigna marina (Burm.) Merr.

GENUS *Vigna* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Dune bean, Beach bean, Marine vine

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Root, Leaves, Pods, Seeds - drink, Vegetable

The roots can be eaten cooked and probably raw.
The young leaves are sometimes eaten cooked with other food.
The young pods are cooked as a vegetable.
The seeds are boiled and eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A climbing or scrambling herb. It can grow to several metres long. The stems can be hairy. The leaflets are rounded. They are 3.5-9.5 cm long by 2.5-7.5 cm wide. The leaf stalks are 2-11 cm long. The flowering stems are erect. They can be 4-10 cm long. The flower is yellow but often green when young. The flowers are 1.2 cm long. The fruit are narrow pods which are slightly curved. They are 4-6 cm long and 8-9 mm wide. They are constricted between the seeds. There are 2-6 seeds. The seeds are brown or red. They are oblong and 6-7 mm long by 5-6 mm wide.

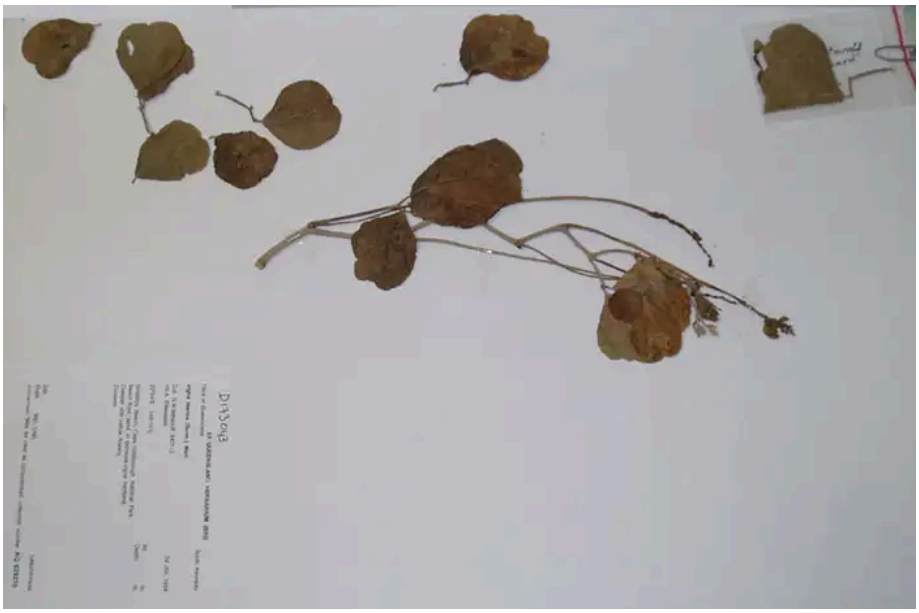
HABITAT

A tropical plant. It occurs just above high tide mark on sandy beaches. It occurs throughout the tropics. It is salt tolerant. It grows on atolls.

NOTES

There are about 150 Vigna species. They are mostly in the tropics.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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