PLANT FACT SHEET

Orchis italica Poir.

GENUS *Orchis* **FAMILY** Orchidaceae

COMMON NAMES Italian man orchid

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Root, Bulb

The bulb is used to produce salep.

DESCRIPTION

A ground orchid. It is a short plant. There are 5-8 leaves at the base. They are oblong or sword shaped with a wavy edge. They can be flecked or spotted with purple-brown. The stem leaves are like sheaths. The bracts are small, oval and have 1 vein. They are shorter than the ovary. The flowers are in dense round clusters. The lower ones open first. The sepals and petals are pink or lilac with purple veins. They form a helmet 9-11 mm long and the lip is 12-18 mm long. It has purple tips and spots. There are slender pointed processes.

HABITAT

It is a temperate of Mediterranean climate plant. It grows in open grassland and hillslopes.

NOTES

There are about 33 Orchis species.

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/6fd739d6-7770-4020-b33a-497eb0c605cc