PLANT FACT SHEET

Dioscorea melanophyma Prain and Burkill

GENUS *Dioscorea* **FAMILY** Dioscoreaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Tuber, Root

The tuberous roots are thoroughly washed, boiled and cooked as a vegetable. They are boiled or used in stir fries.

DESCRIPTION

A yam. It is a climbing plant. The stems twine clockwise. It has a fleshy round tuber. The tuber has roots. The leaves are alternate and have 3-5 leaflets. The leaflets are 4-14 cm long by 1-2.5 cm wide. They are narrowly sword shaped. It has black bulbils along the stem. The fruit is a capsule 1.5 cm long by 0.5 cm wide.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. It grows in Uttar Pradesh in India between 1200-3000 m altitude. In southern China it grows on the edges of forests between 1,300-2,500 m above sea level.

NOTES

There are about 650 species of Dioscorea.

REFERENCES

Flora of Pakistan www.eFloras.org

Jha, P. K., et al, 1996, Plant genetic resources of Nepal: A guide for plant breeders of agricultural, horticultural and forestry crops. Euphytica 87:189-210

Ju, Y., et al, 2013, Eating from the wild: diversity of wild edible plants used by Tibetans in Shangri-la region, Yunnan, China, Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethno medicine 9:28

Li, S., et al, 2020, Monpa, memory, and change: an ethnobotanical study of plant use in Mêdog County, South-east Tibet, China. Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine. (2020) 16:5 p 17

Murtem, G. & Chaudhrey, P., 2016, An ethnobotanical note on wild edible plants of Upper Eastern Himalaya, India. Brazilian Journal of Biological Sciences, 2016, v. 3, no. 5, p. 63-81 (As melanophylla)

Negi, K.S., 1988, Some little known wild edible plants of U.P. Hills. J. Econ. Tax. Bot. Vol. 12 No. 2 pp 345-360

Pandey, K. C. & Pande, N., 2016, Ethnobotanical Documentation of Wild Edible Plants used by Gujjar Community of Tarai West Forest Division Ramnagar, Nainital, India, Current World Environment. Vol. 11(3), 808-818

Radha, B., et al, 2013, Wild Edible Plant Resources of the Lohba Range of Kedarnath Forestt Division (KFD), Garhwal Himalaya, India. Int. Res J. Biological Sci. Vol. 2 (11), 65-73

Wild edible plants of Himachal Pradesh

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/7051a353-264c-4f64-987c-75743b23fd3e