PLANT FACT SHEET

Mucuna sloanei Fawcett et Rendle

GENUS *Mucuna* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Horse-Eye Bean

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Seeds pods, Vegetable

The young seeds pods are used.

DESCRIPTION

A woody climbing herb. It can grow 6-15 m long. The leaves are alternate and have 3 leaflets. The leaflets are 8-12 cm long by 6-8 cm wide. The upper surface is dull green and the lower surface pale. The end leaflet is narrowly oval and the side leaflets are unequal. The flowers are in short groups in the axils of leaves. They are yellowish green. The pod is oblong and flattened. It is 8-18 cm long by 4-5 cm wide. It is covered with stinging hairs. There are 2-4 seeds. They are round and 2-3 cm long. They are brown with a white hilum.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in savannah woodland, deciduous forest and secondary jungle in West Africa. It grows best in damp sites. It cannot tolerate frost. It can grow in arid places. In Argentina it grows below 500 m above sea level.

NOTES

There are about 100 Mucuna species. They grow in tropical places.

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