PLANT FACT SHEET

Neustanthus phaseoloides (Roxb.) Benth.

GENUS *Neustanthus* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Tropical kudzu

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Root, Tuber, Seeds

The tuberous root is eaten. It is often eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A slender, hairy herb. It is a twining vine. It has fattened tuberous roots. The leaves have 3 leaflets. The leaflets are oval or triangular. The flowers are in pairs. They are purple and white. They occur on tall erect stalks. The fruit are long, flat, curved pods. There are about 16 seeds. There are 3 varieties recognised - javanica, phaseoloides, and subspicata.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in hilly areas. It suits the seasonally dry tropics.

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