PLANT FACT SHEET

Stephania abyssinica (Quart.-Dill. & A. Rich.) Walp.

GENUS *Stephania* **FAMILY** Menispermaceae

DESCRIPTION

A twining vine. It is woody at the base. It grows 20 m high. The small branches are hairy. The leaf blade is 5-20 cm long by 4-13 cm wide. They are broadly oval. There can be 2-4 flowers in the axils of leaves. The fruit is fleshy and 5-8 mm across. It is flattened. The stone has small prickles in 3 rows along it. The seeds are 8 mm long.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in grassland and wooded grassland. It is best in moist, shady places especially along the edges of rivers and swamps. It can grow up to 3,500 m altitude.

NOTES

There are 30 Stephania species. Probably edible.
It is used in medicine against malaria.

REFERENCES

Flora Zambesiaca. http://apps.kew.org/efloras

Fowler, D. G., 2007, Zambian Plants: Their Vernacular Names and Uses. Kew. p 48

Molla, A., Ethiopian Plant Names. http://www.ethiopic.com/aplants.htm

White, F., Dowsett-Lemaire, F. and Chapman, J. D., 2001, Evergreen Forest Flora of Malawi. Kew. p 376

World Checklist of Useful Plant Species 2020. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

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/75500660-4624-4dcf-b377-8de439f8ad10