PLANT FACT SHEET

Uraria picta (Jacq.) DC.

GENUS *Uraria* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The ripe fruit are eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A tall herb or shrub. It keeps growing from year to year. It can grow up to 1.8 m tall. The stems have short rough hairs. The leaves are compound. They have 5-9 leaflets at one at the end. The lower most leaflets have 3 lobes. The leaflets are narrowly sword shaped and 7-25 cm long. They are rough and hairy underneath. There are many flowers in a long dense spike at the ends of the branches. These can be 55 cm long. The flowers are pink, blue or red. The fruit are 5-9 mm long.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. In East Africa it grows from sea level to 2,400 m above sea level. It grows on flood plains and marshy lands. It can be in wet grassland savannah and along river banks. In China it grows on grassy slopes between 400-1,500 m above sea level.

NOTES

The roots are used in medicine.

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