PLANT FACT SHEET

Pedilanthus tithymaloides (L.) Poiteau

GENUS *Pedilanthus* **FAMILY** Euphorbiaceae

COMMON NAMES Slipper plant

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: flower - nectar, Plant - tea

The flowers have a sweet juicy nectar which is eaten.
Caution: The milky sap can be poisonous.

DESCRIPTION

A succulent shrub. It grows 1.8 m tall. It has milky sap. It may or may not lose its leaves. The stems are fleshy and erect. They are zigzag in shape, bending at each node. The leaves are mid green and boat shaped. The leaves are 8 cm long. The flowers are like a group of laces and are red. The flowers are tube shaped and have red bracts.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in drier tropical rainforest and open areas. It grows up to 700 m above sea level. It suits hardiness zones 9-11.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It is grown from seeds or cuttings. It can be grown as a hedge.

NOTES

Used as a medicine in Indonesia. There are about 14 Pedilanthus species.

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

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