PLANT FACT SHEET

Platycarphella carlinoides (Oliv. & Hiern) V. A. Funk & H. Rob.

GENUS *Platycarphella* **FAMILY** Asteraceae

COMMON NAMES Rivierkool

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Root, Tuber

The taproot is eaten and tastes like a cabbage.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It has a taproot but no stem. It keeps growing from year to year. It grows 40 cm high. The leaves have a smell when crushed. The leaves spread out like a star in a ring. They do not have leaf stalks. The leaves can be 20 cm long. There can be teeth around the edge. The leaves are silvery grey underneath with felty hairs. The flower heads have many small disc florets. These flower heads to not have stalks and cover the head of the root. The flowers are purple.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. It grows in hot arid places. It grows in places with a marked dry season. The dry season can be 6-11 months. It can grow in stony and silty soils that are seasonally waterlogged. In southern Africa it grows between 700-1,650 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places.

REFERENCES

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (1999). Survey of Economic Plants for Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (SEPASAL) database. Published on the Internet; http://www.rbgkew.org.uk/ceb/sepasal/internet [Accessed 11th April 2011] (As Platycarpha carlinoides)

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

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

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/795c13a9-1222-4ed6-8a9d-e59282068fd0