PLANT FACT SHEET

Hippocratea volubilis L.

GENUS *Hippocratea* **FAMILY** Celastraceae

COMMON NAMES Medicine vine

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Seeds - oil, Fruit

The seeds are eaten.
The seeds are used to extract oil.

DESCRIPTION

A liana or creeper. It can be 20 m long. The leaves are opposite. The flowers are in groups in the axils of leaves. There are usually many flowers in groups 3-12 cm long. These are branched. The fruit is a capsule divided into 3 sections that are spread out. These are attached to a swollen stalk. The capsules are 4.5 cm long by 2.5 cm wide and 0.3 cm thick. There are 5-6 seeds. The seeds are 2 cm long by 0.5 cm wide.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in the rainforest especially along the edges of rivers. In Argentina it grows from sea level to 1,800 m above sea level.

NOTES

There are about 100 Hippocratea species. They grow in the tropics.

REFERENCES

Flora of Guianas

Kermath, B. M., et al, 2014, Food Plants in the Americas: A survey of the domesticated, cultivated and wild plants used for Human food in North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. On line draft. p 419

Martin, F. W., et al, 1987, Perennial Edible Fruits of the Tropics. USDA Handbook 642 p 96

Piedra-Malagón, E. M. et al, 2022, Edible native plants of the Gulf of Mexico Province. Biodiversity Data Journal 10: e80565 p 17

Plants of Haiti Smithsonian Institute http://botany.si.edu

Roa, J. A. G. & Boada, D. S. G., 2018, Fundación para el Fortalecimiento de la Fruticultura y Plantas Alimenticias no Convencionales en Colombia.

Smith, N., Mori, S.A., et al, 2004, Flowering Plants of the Neotropics. Princeton. p 184

Torre, de la, L., et al, 2008, Enciclopedia de las Plantas Útiles del Ecuador. Herbario QCA. Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador. p 380

van Roosmalen, M.G.M., 1985, Fruits of the Guianan Flora. Utrecht Univ. & Wageningen Univ. p 78

www.colecionandofrutas.org

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/7abaca04-b6e5-47c1-b86d-8a730158ddac