PLANT FACT SHEET

Astragalus atropilosulus subsp. abyssinicus (Hochst.) Steud. ex A. Rich.

GENUS *Astragalus* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Vegetable

The leaves are cooked and eaten as a side dish.

DESCRIPTION

A herb or small shrub. The stems are usually erect. The leaves are 20 cm long. There are 11-51 leaflets. They are opposite. They are 3 cm long by 1.4 cm wide. They are sword shaped. There is a point at the tip. There are many flowers along 10 cm long stalks. The corolla is purple, yellow or white. The fruit is a pod 40 mm long by 7 mm wide. It is narrow at both ends. It splits into 2 halves at maturity. The seeds are 2 mm long. They are kidney shaped and dark brown.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in seasonally flooded grassland and woodlands. It is sometimes on termite mounds. In southern Africa it grows between 900-2,250 m altitude and up to 3,900 m altitude in other places.

NOTES

There are 2,000 Astragalus species.

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