PLANT FACT SHEET

Lemna minor L.

GENUS *Lemna* **FAMILY** Araceae

COMMON NAMES Common Duckweed

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves

It is cooked and eaten as a vegetable.
CAUTION: It contains oxalates that burn the throat. The cooking water could be changed.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It grows in water. The fronds are free floating. They are shiny green and cling together in small groups. The plant body is 0.1-0.4 cm long and oval. They have one root hanging down from each leaf. There are very small male and female flowers.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows in a very wide range of locations. It grows in still water. In Tibet it grows between 2,000-3,000 m above sea level. In Central America it grows between 500-1,700 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are transplanted on the legs of waterbirds. Plants grow vegetatively from small pieces of the plant.

NOTES

There are 13 Lemna species. Also put in the family Lemnaceae.

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