PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Dioscorea spicata* Roth.

**GENUS** *Dioscorea* **FAMILY** Dioscoreaceae

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Roots, Tubers

The tubers are boiled or steamed and eaten.

## DESCRIPTION

A yam. It has a twining vine. The stem can be 7 m long and is very slender. The tubers are 60-100 cm long by 6 cm wide. The leaves are opposite and 10 cm long by 5 cm wide. They vary in shape and are oval or sword shaped. The male flowers are in clusters with spikes 25 cm long in the axils of leaves. The female flower spikes occur singly and are drooping and 15-30 cm long.

## HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in semi-evergreen forests.

## REFERENCES


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