PLANT FACT SHEET

Rotala indica (Willdenow) Koehne

GENUS *Rotala* **FAMILY** Lythraceae

COMMON NAMES Tooth-cup, Joint potherb

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Shoots, Leaves

The young shoots are eaten as a potherb.

DESCRIPTION

An annual herb. It can grow on land or in water. It is about 40 cm high. The stems are creeping and branched at the base. It can be weakly 4 angled. The leaves are divided and broadly oval. They are 5-17 mm long by 3-8 mm wide. The flowers are small and 1-2 mm long. They are in spikes 6-12 mm long in the axils of leaves. The fruit is an oblong capsule 1.5 mm long. It has lines along it. The seeds do not have wings.

HABITAT

It grows in temperate and tropical places. It is common in central and southern China. It is usually associated with rice cultivation. It grows in wetlands. In Pakistan it grows between 300-1,800 m altitude.

NOTES

There are 45 Rotala species. They grow in water.

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