PLANT FACT SHEET

Agapanthus praecox var. minimus (Lindl.) F. M. Leight.

GENUS *Agapanthus* **FAMILY** Amaryllidaceae

COMMON NAMES African lily, Lily of the Nile

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Root

The root is cooked and eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A bulb plant. It grows up to 90 cm tall. It spreads to 60 cm wide. The leaves are strap like and stiff. They are 100-130 cm long. The flowers are trumpet shaped and blue to violet. They often have darker stripes. They occur in rounded heads of about 30 flowers.

HABITAT

It does best in a dry porous soil with plenty of leaf mould. It needs plenty of moisture while growing but needs to be kept dry during winter. It only flowers in very sunny positions. It occurs naturally in South Africa. It suits hardiness zones 9-11.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown from fresh seed. They germinate in 1-3 months at 18°C. Seedlings should be grown undisturbed for one year. Plants can be grown by dividing the offsets during the growing season.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Seedlings take 2-3 years to flower.

NOTES

There are about 10 Agapanthus species. Also put in the family family Agapanthaceae. There is only one genus in the Agapanthaceae family. They are all native to southern Africa.

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