PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Smilax spinosa* Mill.

**GENUS** *Smilax* **FAMILY** Smilacaceae

**COMMON NAMES** Cuculmeca

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Shoots, Fruit

The shoots of the stem near the ground are eaten.

## DESCRIPTION

A creeper. The stems have spines. The leaves are simple and alternate. The leaf blades are 4-10 cm long by 2-6 cm wide. They are narrowly oval. They have 3-5 veins along them. The flowers are in the axils of leaves. The fruit are 1.5 cm across. They are black when ripe. They have a few seeds.

## HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. In Central America it grows from sea level to 1,600 m altitude.

## REFERENCES


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