PLANT FACT SHEET

Edibility uncertain
It has not been confirmed that this plant is safe to eat. Do not eat it on the strength of this fact sheet alone.

Osbeckia nepalensis Hooker

GENUS *Osbeckia* **FAMILY** Melastomataceae

COMMON NAMES Nepal osbeckia

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Leaves, Seeds

The ripe fruit are eaten fresh.
The leaves are used as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub. It grows to about 2 m high. The leaves do not have a leaf stalk. The leaves are 2.8-12 cm long. They are sword shaped but wider at the base. They are hairy on both surfaces. The flowers are purple. They occur in flat topped flower arrangements where the outer flowers open first. The fruit is a capsule. It is oval and 8 mm long by 6 mm wide.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. In Nepal they grow between 500-2300 m altitude. They grow in damp places. In Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In southern China plants flower in August to October and fruit September to December.

NOTES

There are about 60 Osbeckia species.

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