PLANT FACT SHEET

Smilax bockii Warb.

GENUS *Smilax* **FAMILY** Smilacaceae

COMMON NAMES China Root

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves

DESCRIPTION

A climbing vine. The stem is woody. The leaf stalk is 1-3 cm long. It has narrow wings along 1/3 of its length. It has tendrils. The leaf blade is oval and 6-22 cm long by 2.4-12 cm wide. The flowering stalk is borne in the axil of the leaf. The flower stalk is 1-3 cm long. There are 20-50 flowers in the cluster. The fruit is a black berry. It is round and 6-10 mm across.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows on densely forested slopes between 500-1800 m altitude in China. In Sichuan and Yunnan.

NOTES

There are 12 Heterosmilax species in tropical and subtropical Asia.
It contains steroids.

REFERENCES

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Wang, J. et al, 2013, A Study on the Utilization of Wild Plants for Food in Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture. Plant Diversity and Resources. 35(4): 416-471 (As Heterosmilax japonica)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/8b8d1d46-17d7-426c-93f7-0fedddc92c92