PLANT FACT SHEET

Leucojum aestivum L.

GENUS *Leucojum* **FAMILY** Amaryllidaceae

COMMON NAMES Summer snowflake

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Root, Bulb

The bulbs are cooked and eaten. They are also used to extract starch/flour.

DESCRIPTION

A bulb plant. It grows 45-60 cm high and 10-15 cm wide. The leaves are strap shaped and 5-20 mm wide. They grow in clumps. The leaves are bright deep green. The flower stem is green. The flower stem is sturdy and leafless and carries several white bells. They have green markings just above the tips of the segments. These bell shaped nodding flowers are 18 mm wide.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It is frost hardy. It can grow in full sun or light shade. The soil needs to be moist but well drained. Soils should be rich in organic matter. It suits hardiness zones 6-9.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from bulbs spaced 15 cm apart. Plants can be divided or the small bulblets used.

NOTES

There are about 10-20 Leucojum species.

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