PLANT FACT SHEET

Pomaria burchellii (DC.) B. B. Simpson & G. P. Lewis

GENUS *Pomaria* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Roots, Tuber

The root tubers are eaten raw and as a vegetable by roasting in the ashes. The skin is removed.

DESCRIPTION

A herb or small shrub. It has a taproot but no stem. It grows 50 cm high. It keeps growing from year to year by putting up annual shoots. The roots are 20 cm long with a brown skin and white flesh. The leaves are compound with leaflets along the stalk and one at the end. The flowers are pink or red. The fruit are oblique pods. They are 2-3 cm long by 1 cm wide. There are 3-4 seeds per pod.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. It grows in hot arid places with a marked dry season. The dry season can be 6-11 months. It grows in deep sandy soils. It grows between 800-1,350 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places.

NOTES

Also as Caesalpinaceae.
It does not fix nitrogen.

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