PLANT FACT SHEET

Abutilon leucopetalum (F. Muell.) Benth.

GENUS *Abutilon* **FAMILY** Malvaceae

COMMON NAMES Desert lantern, Lantern Bush

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Root

The thickened root is eaten after cooking.

DESCRIPTION

A small shrub. It grows 0.3-2 m high. The young shoots have lots of soft hairs. The leaves are 2-8 cm long by 3-6 cm wide. They are soft and hairy with irregular lobes around the edge. The flowers are white or yellow and 3-4 cm long. The seed capsule is 1 cm long and angular in shape.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. This plant occurs in Central and Northern Australia. It is often near the base of rocks in the hills. It needs well drained soil. It does best in a sunny position. It can grow in arid places.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown from seed or cuttings. Seedling germination is encouraged by burning. Flowering occurs after rains.

NOTES

There are about 100-160 Abutilon species.

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/94fb94e4-2735-4673-8e86-3815bbf003e9