PLANT FACT SHEET

Austrodolichos errabundus (M.B. Scott) Verdc.

GENUS *Austrodolichos* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Austrodolichos

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Root

The fattened root or yam is roasted then cleaned and softened by crushing. The starch is chewed from amongst the fibres, which are not eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A low vine or creeper. It has a tuberous taproot. The stems are very slender. The leaves have 3 leaflets. Each leaflet is 3 cm long. They are often oval but can vary in shape. The flowers are mauve or pink and about 2.5 cm long. They are pea shaped. The fruit are pods that are flat and 8 cm long. They are covered with silky hairs. It has a tuber or yam from which it re-grows each year.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in open forest. It grows in the wet season and becomes dormant in the dry season. It is very hardy and drought resistant. It needs a well drained soil.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed. Seed need treatment to help them to grow. Plants can be grown from stem cuttings.

NOTES

There is only one Austrodolichos species.

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