PLANT FACT SHEET

Rorippa madagascariensis (DC.) Hara

GENUS *Rorippa* **FAMILY** Brassicaceae

COMMON NAMES African cress, Nigerian watercress

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Vegetable

The leaves are eaten raw as a salad. It has a peppery flavour. They can be cooked and used in soups.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It grows from seeds each year. It has a fine taproot. The leaves are in a ring. They have lobes and are divided. They are 3-11 cm long by 2 cm wide. The segments are in 4-6 pairs. There can be rounded teeth along the edge. The end leaflet is usually the largest. The flowers are in dense groups in the axils of leaves. The fruit is a long seed capsule. It is 7-15 mm long by 1 mm wide. It splits open into 2 valves. There are many seeds.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in humid locations. It is often along river banks and the edges of pools. It is mostly in the lowlands but can be up to 1,200 m above sea level.

REFERENCES

Grubben, G. J. H. and Denton, O. A. (eds), 2004, Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 2. Vegetables. PROTA, Wageningen, Netherlands. p 449

World Checklist of Useful Plant Species 2020. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

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French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/97b691cc-25a5-4764-a0d1-08e23839c252