PLANT FACT SHEET

Swertia purpurascens (G. Don) C.B.Clarke

GENUS *Swertia* **FAMILY** Gentianaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves - tea

The leaves are used as a substitute for tea.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It grows each year from seed. It grows 30-50 cm tall. The roots are yellow and fibrous. The stems are erect and angular. The leaves are without stalks and are 1-5 cm long by 1-2 cm wide. The edges curl under slightly. There are many flowers in a spreading open arrangement. The flowers are dark purple with 2 purple spots. The fruit is an oval capsule 7-10 mm long.

HABITAT

It is a cool temperate to subarctic plant. It grows between 2000-3500 m altitude in Uttar Pradesh in India.

NOTES

It is used in medicine.

REFERENCES

Ambasta, S.P. (Ed.), 2000, The Useful Plants of India. CSIR India. p 609 (As Swertia ciliata)

Negi, K.S., 1988, Some little known wild edible plants of U.P. Hills. J. Econ. Tax. Bot. Vol. 12 No. 2 pp 345-360 (As Swertia ciliata)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/9827e30b-88f9-4c2f-8a97-ab1930296320