PLANT FACT SHEET

Cynanchum ovalifolium Wight

GENUS *Cynanchum* **FAMILY** Apocynaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Fruit

CAUTION: Many Cynanchum are poisonous.
The fruit are reported as eaten by children.

DESCRIPTION

A creeper climber. The branches are greyish-brown to blackish-brown. It has thick oval leaves. They are opposite and leathery. The leaves are simple and 7-12 cm long by 3.5-7 cm wide. They have a sharp tip. The leaves are dark green and shiny on the top surface and light green underneath. They have yellow veins. The flowers occur on stalks of equal length arising from the same point. They are 6-7 mm across. There are 5 petals. The fruit is a boat shaped dry sac. It is roughly triangular in cross section.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in mangrove swamps on the ground and climbing up trees. In northern Australia it grows from sea level to 300 m altitude.

NOTES

There are about 150 Cynanchum species.

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