



PLANT FACT SHEET

Tagetes erecta L.

GENUS *Tagetes* FAMILY Asteraceae

COMMON NAMES African marigold

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Flowers - colouring, Flowers

The young leaves are boiled and eaten with fish sauces.

The fresh receptacle is eaten by children.

The dried flowers are used to colour butter and cheese.

The flowers are some kinds can be eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It grows 0.5-1 m tall. It grows from seed each year. The stems are angular and green. The leaves are deeply lobed. The lobes are along the stalk. They also have coarse, sharp teeth. The flower heads are single. They have long stalks and are yellow. The fruit is dry.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in both temperate and warm countries. In Nepal it grows to about 2200 m altitude.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It is fast growing.

NOTES

There are about 50 *Tagetes* species.

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PROVIDED BY Food Plants International

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

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