PLANT FACT SHEET

Crotalaria natalitia Meissner

GENUS *Crotalaria* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Pioneer rattle pod

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Flowers, Vegetable

The leaves and flowers are cooked and eaten. They are cooked with potash and peanuts added. The leaves can be dried and pounded.

DESCRIPTION

An erect herb or shrub. It grows 40-50 cm high. The branches are straight. They are covered with fine hairs. The leaves have 3 leaflets. The leaves are 2.5 cm long. The flowers are brownish-yellow. They are in groups of 5-10 at the ends of branches. The fruit are fattened pods 3.5 cm long and 1.3 cm wide.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows between sea level to 3,000 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown by seed.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Leaves are collected during the rain season. Leaves can be dried, pounded and stored.

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