PLANT FACT SHEET

Lathyrus japonicus Willdenow

GENUS *Lathyrus* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Beach pea

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Seeds

The young seeds are cooked. They should possibly only be eaten in small amounts.
The young leaves in spring are cooked and eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It keeps growing from year to year. It can be climbing or trailing. The stems are 50-80 cm long. The leaves are waxy and a non shiny green. They are 5-10 cm long with leaflets along the stalk. There are 2-5 pairs of leaflets with a tendril at the end. The flowers are broad and have a dark purple standard and blue wings. They are in groups of about 12 flowers. The pod are brown and 5 cm long. The seeds are a flattened round shape.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows on mountains. It grows on sand and gravel beaches.

NOTES

There are about 150 Lathyrus species.

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/a19c86b5-9316-406c-a616-1aa8d8ea5c3f