PLANT FACT SHEET

Vigna pilosa (Klein ex Willd.) Baker

GENUS *Vigna* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds

The seeds are cooked and eaten in times of scarcity.

DESCRIPTION

A climbing bean plant herb. It grows 1-3 m long. The branches are tender and white and hairy. The leaves have 3 leaflets. The leaf stalk is 3-5 cm long. The leaflets are oval and taper to the tip while being rounded at the base. They are 2-10 cm long by 1-8 cm wide. The flowers are in a group 12 cm long in the axils of the leaves. The pods are narrow and 6-14 cm long by 5-7 mm wide. The seeds are cylinder shaped and 5-7 mm long by 4 mm wide. They are black.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in hedges and bamboo forest. It grows from low elevation up to 1,000 m above sea level. It can withstand water-logging.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

It grows slowly and does not produce a lot of seeds.

NOTES

There are about 150 Vigna species. They are mostly in the tropics.

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