PLANT FACT SHEET

Ophiopogon japonicus (L. f.) Ker Gawl.

GENUS *Ophiopogon* **FAMILY** Asparagaceae

COMMON NAMES Mondo grass, Creeping Lily-turf

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Root, Tubers, Tea

The tuberous roots are occasionally eaten. They must have the bitterness removed.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It is a perennial plant. It grows 30 cm high and spreads 45 cm wide. It has stolons or runners. The roots are moderately thick usually with a tuber near the middle or tip. It forms clumps. The leaves are in tufts at the base. They are grass like. They are 10-50 cm long by 2-4 cm wide. The flowering stalk is reduced. It is 2-5 cm long. There can be 10 flowers. The seeds are round and 7-8 mm across.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows in dense shady places near cliffs and streams between 200 and 2800 m altitude in China. Melbourne Botanical gardens. It suits hardiness zones 7-10. In XTBG Yunnan. In Sichuan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed or division of the plant.

NOTES

There are about 20-65 Ophiopogon species. The tubers are used in medicine.
Also put in the family Convallariaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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