PLANT FACT SHEET

Ipomoea verbascoidea Choisy

GENUS *Ipomoea* **FAMILY** Convolvulaceae

COMMON NAMES Damara creeper

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Tubers, Roots, Fruit

The root is eaten raw. It has useful water. It is usually grated.
The fruit are eaten as a snack.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or climber. It can lie along the ground or climb. The stems are woody. It can grow 2 m high. It has succulent roots. It usually has yellow to white woolly hairs. The leaves are heart shaped or oblong and 4-15 cm long by 3-17 cm wide. There are woolly hairs underneath and the edges are entire. The leaf stalks are 2-10 cm long. There is a gland on each side of the stalk at the base or the leaf blade. The flowers occur as 1-3 together. They are in the axils of leaves. The flowers are funnel shaped and 5-7 cm across. They are red or purple with a darker throat. The fruit is an oval capsule 20-25 mm long. The seeds are covered in long, cotton-like hairs.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in sandy soil. It can be in woodland or scrub. It grows between 490-1,525 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places.

NOTES

There are about 500 Ipomoea species.

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