PLANT FACT SHEET

Curcuma pseudomontana R. Graham

GENUS *Curcuma* **FAMILY** Zingiberaceae

COMMON NAMES Hill turmeric

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Tubers, Root, Starch, Rhizome

The rhizomes yield a form of arrowroot starch.

DESCRIPTION

A ginger family herb. It is erect and grows 75 cm tall. It has a stout rootstock and round tubers at the ends of roots. They are white inside. There are 3-5 leaves. They are oblong to sword shaped and 20-30 cm long by 6-9 cm wide. The flowering spikes are 10-25 cm long. The bracts are green with a pink top. There are 2-4 flowers in each fertile bract. They are yellow. The fruit are round capsules splitting by 3 valves. The seeds are oval.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in moist shady places in forests. It occurs on the Deccan in India. It is usually in shade and near the banks of streams. It occurs at about 800 m or higher above sea level.

NOTES

There are about 50 Curcuma species. They are mostly in SE Asia.

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