PLANT FACT SHEET

Euphorbia heterophylla var. heterophylla

GENUS *Euphorbia* **FAMILY** Euphorbiaceae

COMMON NAMES Common spurge

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves

Caution: All Euphorbias or spurges have irritating sap and many have chemicals that can cause cancer. The leaves are eaten occasionally.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It has milky sap. The stems are hollow. The leaves are fattened sword shaped but narrow to the tip. There are some irregular dents in the edge of the leaf near its base. The flowers are light green. The occur in clusters at the ends of branches.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It is commonly found in wet places. It grows between sea level and 3,000 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places.

NOTES

There are about 2000 Euphorbia species. Most Euphorbias have sap which irritates the skin.

REFERENCES

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Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (1999). Survey of Economic Plants for Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (SEPASAL) database. Published on the Internet; http://www.rbgkew.org.uk/ceb/sepasal/internet [Accessed 16th April 2011] (As Euphorbia geniculata)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/ac19f61a-334f-449c-891a-0158d6f391a2