PLANT FACT SHEET

Plectranthus parviflorus Willd.

GENUS *Plectranthus* **FAMILY** Lamiaceae

COMMON NAMES Sudan potato

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Roots

The tubers are boiled or baked like a potato and eaten as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

A herb or shrub that grows from a tuberous rootstock. It can be 20 cm to 1 m tall. The leaves are 1-3 cm long by 1-4 cm wide. They have large teeth along the edge. Leaves are hairy. The flowering shoots are 30 cm long. They flowers are 4-5 mm across and in rings of six. The fruit are 4-5 mm long.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in drier areas. Plants can produce with 100 mm of rainfall.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds. They can also be grown from cuttings 10-20 cm long and by division of the sprouting tubers.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Tubers are ready 4-5 months after planting. Yields of 4-7 tonnes per hectare are possible.

REFERENCES

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French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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