PLANT FACT SHEET

Allium altaicum Pallas

GENUS *Allium* **FAMILY** Amaryllidaceae

COMMON NAMES Altai onion

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Flowers, Leaves, Roots, Bulb

The bulb is eaten raw or cooked. It is used for flavouring.
The leaves are eaten raw or cooked.
The flowers are eaten raw as a garnish on salads.

DESCRIPTION

An onion family plant with a bulb. The plant grows up to 30 cm high. The bulbs are formed in clusters on a rhizome and are 4 cm wide.

HABITAT

It is a cold temperate plant. It grows naturally in rocky areas from Siberia to Mongolia. It prefers a sunny position in a light well drained soil. It can do well in moist and acid soils.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Seed can be used to grow plants but these take a year to become established. Bulbs should be planted fairly deeply. Bulbs can be obtained by division of the clumps.

NOTES

There are about 300-700 Allium species. Most species of Allium are edible (Flora of China). All alliums are edible but they may not all be worth eating!
They have also been put in the family Alliaceae.

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