PLANT FACT SHEET

Dioscorea hamiltonii Hook. f.

GENUS *Dioscorea* **FAMILY** Dioscoreaceae

COMMON NAMES Sandikilangu

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Tubers, Root

The tubers are boiled and eaten. The bulbils are also cooked and eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A yam. It is a climbing plant and the stems wind clockwise. The tubers are deeply buried. It has bulbils in the axils of the leaves. The leaves can be opposite or alternate. The leaves are heart shaped and 10 cm long by 8 cm wide. The tubers can occur singly or in pairs. Flowers are on spikes with male and female flowers separately. Male spikes are zigzag and 40 cm long while female spikes are curved and 20 cm long. The fruit are capsules 2 cm wide. The seeds have brown wings.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. In Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown from the bulbils.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Tubers are harvested when the plant withers.

NOTES

There are about 650 species of Dioscorea.

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