PLANT FACT SHEET

Dicliptera papuana Warb.

GENUS *Dicliptera* **FAMILY** Acanthaceae

COMMON NAMES Kabanga

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves

Leaf tips are eaten cooked.

DESCRIPTION

A herb up to 1 m high. It is somewhat similar to Rungia klossii but taller and with longer leaves. The stems have grooves along them. The leaves are produced opposite each other. They are oblong and taper at both ends. Leaves can be smooth or finely hairy. The flower clusters occur in the axils of leaves. The flower clusters have 2 wing like bracts below them. Flowers are blue. They occur in pairs. The fruit capsule is small with 2 cells and with 2 seeds in each cell. The seed are round and with pits on the surface.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows wild in the highlands especially along creeks. It is also cultivated. It grows between at least 700 m and 2600 m altitude.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown from cuttings. Normally a group of stalks are planted together to produce a clumpy bush.

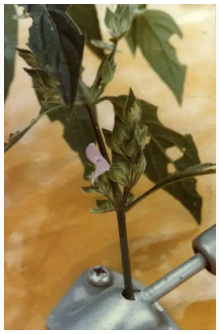
Harvesting and Seed Production

The young leaf tips are picked at regular intervals.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/b0fc0ff8-3edb-4463-b302-11b02b2c8106