PLANT FACT SHEET

Cynomorium coccineum subsp. songaricum (Ruprecht)

J. Leonard

GENUS *Cynomorium* **FAMILY** Cynomoriaceae

COMMON NAMES Suo yang, Lock-up yang

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Root, Stems

Starch extracted from the stems is used in pastries.

DESCRIPTION

A root parasite. It grows on Nitraria, Reaumaria, Salsola and Tamarix shrubs. It has an underground stem 15-50 cm long and 1-2 cm wide. The aerial portion is 15-40 cm high and 3-6 cm wide. The leaves are like scales. They are 1-2 cm long and wide. They are arranged in spirals. The flowers are small and dark purple. Male and female flowers are separate.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows near lakes and streams. In China it grows between 500-700 m altitude in northern provinces. It grows on desert shrubs. It grows in desert areas in Inner Mongolia. It can grow in arid places.

NOTES

There are 2 Cynomorium species. This one is used in Chinese medicine. It is a powerful antioxidant.

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

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/b2baf13a-cb40-4b3b-9ad1-e7196a31a1b7