PLANT FACT SHEET

Triumfetta rhomboidea Jacq.

GENUS *Triumfetta* **FAMILY** Malvaceae

COMMON NAMES Burweed, Chinese burr

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Roots, Stem, Vegetable

The leaves are cooked as a vegetable.
The roots are eaten cooked.

DESCRIPTION

A herb or small shrub. It keeps growing from year to year. Plants can be 1.5 m high. The bark is tough and fibrous. The younger stems and leaves and flowers are covered densely with hairs. The leaves are alternate and the edges of the leaves have teeth. The lower leaves have 3 lobes. The flowers occur in small clusters opposite the axils of leaves. The stalks carrying the flowers are 20-40 cm long. There are 5 yellow petals. The fruit are brown and hairy and covered with hooked spines. The fruit are round and about 5 mm across. They contain 2-4 seeds. The fruit cling to clothing.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows naturally in grassland and re-growth situations. It is more common in tropical places with seasonal rainfall. It grows in savannah woodland and in palm groves. It grows between 5-1,280 m above sea level. In Ethiopia it grows between 400-2,750 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places. In Yunnan.

NOTES

There are about 150 Triumfetta species. They are mostly in the tropics and subtropics. It has also been put in the family Sparmanniaceae. It may eventually be put in the family Malvaceae. These have also been in the family Tiliaceae.

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