PLANT FACT SHEET

Cucurbita okeechobeensis (Small) L. H. Bailey

GENUS *Cucurbita* **FAMILY** Cucurbitaceae

COMMON NAMES Okeechobee gourd

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Flowers, Seeds

DESCRIPTION

A pumpkin family plant. It is a vine. The tendrils are long and twisting. The stems are slender. It can climb to 12 m long. The leaves are 15-20 cm wide and rough and hairy. They are alternate. They are broadly heart shaped with lobes and teeth along the edge. The surface can be mottled silver to grey. The flowers are yellow, bell shaped and 6-8 cm long. The fruit are 8 cm wide. They are round, smooth and waxy and not edible. The seeds are flat with raised edges.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant.

NOTES

There are 25 Cucurbita species.
It is an at risk species.

REFERENCES

Gentes Herb. 2:179. 1930
Kiple, K.F. & Ornelas, K.C., (eds), 2000, The Cambridge World History of Food. CUP p 1858
Wikipedia

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