PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Cucumis anguria var. longaculeatus* L., J. H. Kirkbr.

**GENUS** *Cucumis* **FAMILY** Cucurbitaceae

**COMMON NAMES** Wild cucumber, Gooseberry gourd

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Leaves, Fruit, Seed

The young leaves are cooked and eaten as a vegetable.
The fruit are eaten raw and used in soups and vegetable dishes. The dried fruit are cooked together with maize porridge.

## DESCRIPTION

A herb. It lies along the ground and can be a climber. It can be 3 m long. The leaf blade is 3-10 cm long by 4-13 cm wide. It is broadly oval.

## HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. It grows in hot arid areas with a marked dry season. It grows between 10-1,675 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places.

## PRODUCTION

### Cultivation

Plants are grown from seeds. Non bitter varieties are selected.

## REFERENCES

Magwede, K., van Wyk, B.-E., & van Wyk, A. E., 2019, An inventory of Vhavenda useful plants. South African Journal of Botany 122 (2019) 57–89

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (1999). Survey of Economic Plants for Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (SEPASAL) database. Published on the Internet; http://www.rbgkew.org.uk/ceb/sepasal/internet [Accessed 16th April 2011]

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**ONLINE FACT SHEET** https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/b625357e-9dd7-4ebc-92f9-469fee0e2d30