PLANT FACT SHEET

Coptis trifolia (L.) Salisb.

GENUS *Coptis* **FAMILY** Ranunculaceae

COMMON NAMES Goldthread, Cankerroot, Coptis, Yellowroot

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves

The bitter roots have been eaten. They are also used to flavour beer.
The plant is mixed with sassafras-root bark, and Irish moss and made into a herbal beer.

DESCRIPTION

A small evergreen plant. It grows 8-15 cm high. It forms low mats. The roots are slender and a golden colour. The leaves are shiny and have 3 leaflets. The flowers occur singly and are saucer shaped. They are white.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It suits cool, moist situations. It can grow in swamps. It is resistant to frost but damaged by drought.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown by division.

NOTES

There are about 8 Coptis species. The yellow die from the roots is used as a tonic.

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/b71dab5a-1069-4639-b338-9f300fc615e3