PLANT FACT SHEET

Astragalus americanus (Hook.) M. E. Jones

GENUS *Astragalus* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES American milkvetch

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Roots

Caution: It is poisonous so should not be eaten in large quantities.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It grows 30-100 cm tall. The stems are thick at the base and do not have hairs. The leaves are alternate and divided into 9-17 leaflets. These are 2-5 cm long by 7-15 mm wide. The flowers are in groups of 15-40 in loose groups in the axils of leaves. The fruit is a slender pod 2-3 cm long.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows in moist meadows between 800-1,600 m above sea level.

NOTES

There are 2,000 Astragalus species.

REFERENCES

Contr. W. Bot. 8:8. 1898

Etkin, N.L. (Ed.), 1994, Eating on the Wild Side, Univ. of Arizona. p 69

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/b801ab89-f5e0-4c58-b2b4-8adb9c828aaa