PLANT FACT SHEET

Geum rivale L.

GENUS *Geum* **FAMILY** Rosaceae

COMMON NAMES Water avens, Chocolate root, Indian chocolate, Purple avens

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Roots - drink, Roots - spice, Leaves, Flowers, flower - nectar

The boiled rootstock is made into a chocolate like drink. It is best with milk and sugar added.
It is also used to flavour ales and liquors.
The roots have a clove like taste.

DESCRIPTION

A small herb. It grows 25-30 cm high. It has robust roots. The leaves at the base are harp shaped and with leaflets. They are 10-35 cm long. The leaves are like strawberry leaves. The flowers are dull purplish-pink. Some garden cultivated varieties have been developed.

HABITAT

It grows in northern temperate regions. It prefers cool moist soils. It grows in wet places. In western China it grows between 1,200-2,300 m above sea level. It suits hardiness zones 3-9.

NOTES

There are about 40 Geum species.

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