PLANT FACT SHEET

Hygrophila serpyllum T. Anderson

GENUS *Hygrophila* **FAMILY** Acanthaceae

COMMON NAMES Marsh carpet

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Fruit

The fruit are eaten.
The leaves are eaten in times of scarcity.

DESCRIPTION

A small herb. It often lies along the ground. The stems are 30 cm long. The leaves are narrowly oval and opposite. They are 1-3 cm long. The flowers are at the end of the stems in a spike with a pairs of flowers. They are bluish-purple and with 2 lips.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows near Mumbai.

NOTES

There are about 80 Hygrophila species. They grow in the tropics.

REFERENCES

Ambasta S.P. (Ed.), 2000, The Useful Plants of India. CSIR India. p 279
GAMMIE
Martin, F.W. & Ruberte, R.M., 1979, Edible Leaves of the Tropics. Antillian College Press, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico. p 171

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