PLANT FACT SHEET

Paeonia emodi Wall. ex Royle

GENUS *Paeonia* **FAMILY** Paeoniaceae

COMMON NAMES Himalayan peony

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves

The young shoots are eaten cooked.
They can be sun-dried and stored for later use.

DESCRIPTION

A perennial herb. It grows up to 1 m high. The leaves can have 15 segments. The leaves are 9-13 cm long and 2-4 cm wide.

HABITAT

It grows in scrub and forest between 1800-2500 metres in western China. It can grow in a range of soils but cannot tolerate waterlogging nor very dry conditions. It does best with light shade. Plants can withstand frost.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed and it is best to use fresh seed and stored seed germinates very slowly. Plants do not tolerate root disturbance. Transplanting of multiplying plants by division of the roots must be done very carefully.

Harvesting and Seed Production

Plants take 4-5 years to flower from seed. Plants can live for 50 years.

NOTES

The plant has medicinal uses. There are about 30 Paeonia species.

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