PLANT FACT SHEET

Iris ensata Thunb.

GENUS *Iris* **FAMILY** Iridaceae

COMMON NAMES Japanese water iris, Sword-leaved iris

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Root

Starch is extracted from the roots.

DESCRIPTION

A perennial plant. It grows 30-90 cm high and 30-45 cm wide. It has a creeping rhizome. The leaves are narrow and 30-80 cm long by 5-12 mm wide. The flowering stems are 25-100 m long. The flowers are purple and beardless. Colours can vary from white, blue, pink and purple.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It is frost hardy. It does well in sunny positions beside water. It will not tolerate dry, hot conditions. It suits hardiness zones 5-8.

NOTES

There are about 300 Iris species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/c1de51bd-99ad-4280-a1fc-64d569566eeb