PLANT FACT SHEET

Euphorbia thymifolia L.

GENUS *Euphorbia* **FAMILY** Euphorbiaceae

COMMON NAMES Red Caustic creeper

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves

The leaves and young shoots are edible cooked.
Caution: All Euphorbias or spurges have irritating sap and many have chemicals that can cause cancer.

DESCRIPTION

An annual spreading and much branched slender herb up to 20 cm long. The stems are usually reddish. The leaves are opposite and 4 to 7 mm long. The flowers are small and not easily noticed crowded on short branchlets in the axils of the leaves.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. A weed found throughout the Philippines in open waste places. In Argentina it grows below 500 m above sea level.

NOTES

There are about 2000 Euphorbia species. Most Euphorbias have sap which irritates the skin.

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