PLANT FACT SHEET

Calopogonium caeruleum (Benth.) Sauvalle

GENUS *Calopogonium* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Wild jicama

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Root

The roots are used for starch.

DESCRIPTION

A slightly woody vine or creeper. It keeps growing from year to year. It is twining with side branches. It grows 10 m long. The stems are slender and cylinder shaped. The leaves are alternate and have 3 leaflets. The leaflets are papery. They are 5-11 cm long by 3-8 cm wide. The end leaflets are wedge shaped and the side ones unequal at the base. The edges are wavy. The upper surface are dull green and lower leaves are pale green. The flowers are in groups 12-45 cm long with flowers in groups of 4 to 5. The pods are 3-8 cm long by 1 cm wide. They are flattened and squeezed between the seeds. The seeds are almost square and reddish-brown.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. In Argentina it grows below 1,000 m above sea level.

REFERENCES

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Miguel, E., et al, 1989, A checklist of the cultivated plants of Cuba. Kulturpflanze 37. 1989, 211-357

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/c882810c-0a09-41ed-b6f3-9c6bfca0fe2a