PLANT FACT SHEET

Dioscorea orbiculata Hook.f.

GENUS *Dioscorea* **FAMILY** Dioscoreaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Tubers, Root

The tubers are boiled well then eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A yam. The stems have a few thorns at the base. It twines to the right. The vines can be 10 m long. They are slightly hairy. Plants produce several tubers. They are on stalks 2 m long. The flesh is white. They do not have bulbils. The leaves are simple and usually opposite. The leaf stalk is 10 cm long. The leaf blade is rounded and 18 cm long by 14 cm wide. It tapers to a long tip. Male flowers occur as 1-6 together. They are on branches 70 cm long. Female flowers occur singly and are 15 cm long. The capsule has wings.

HABITAT

A tropical plant.

NOTES

There are about 650 species of Dioscorea.

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