PLANT FACT SHEET

Use with caution

This plant can be harmful if it is eaten raw, in large amounts or without the right preparation. Read the whole fact sheet before use.

Cucumella engleri (Gilg) C. Jeffrey

GENUS *Cucumella* **FAMILY** Cucurbitaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

Caution: Some consider the fruit poisonous.

DESCRIPTION

A pumpkin family herb that lies along the ground. It grows 1.2 m long. It is bristly. The leaf blade is 1-8 cm long by 2-7 cm wide. They are broadly oval. Young leaves have a covering underneath. It may or may not have lobes. There can be 3-5 lobes arranged like fingers on a hand. The central lobe is the largest and the lobes are triangle shaped. The male flowers are in groups of 2-12 flowers. The fruit are 1-4 cm long by 1-1.5 cm wide. They are narrow and have ribs along them. They are orange-red. The seeds are 4-7 mm long by 2-4 mm wide and 1 mm thick.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It can grow in arid places.

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French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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