PLANT FACT SHEET

Pyrenacantha kaurabassana Baill.

GENUS *Pyrenacantha* **FAMILY** Icacinaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Ash - salt, Tuber, Root, Vegetable, Leaves

The tubers are chopped, dried, burnt, filtered and evaporated to provide salt.
The leaves are cooked and eaten as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

A climbing shrub. It has several trailing or twining stems. There is a tuberous rootstock. The leaf stalk is 4-6 cm long. The leaves are triangle shaped or 8 sided in outline. They can have 3-5 lobes. The base is heart shaped. The flowers are at the nodes. The male flowers are in 3-4 cm long spikes and the female flowers are in 1-1.5 flattened groups. There are many male flowers and fewer female flowers. The fruit are yellow to orange when ripe.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows among rocks and on termite minds. It grows in dry woodland. In Ethiopia it grows between 600-1,300 m above sea level.

NOTES

It is used in medicine.

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