PLANT FACT SHEET

Smilax ferox Wall. ex Kunth

GENUS *Smilax* **FAMILY** Smilacaceae

COMMON NAMES Kukurdaino

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Fruit

The young shoots and leaves are cooked as a vegetable.
The ripe fruit are eaten fresh.

DESCRIPTION

A trailing shrub or vine. The branches are woody and have prickles. The leaves are stalked. The leaf stalk is 4-7 mm long and has wings. The leaves are 2.5-5 cm long by 0.6-2 cm wide. They are oval and taper to a sharp tip. They are leathery and the base is rounded or wedge shaped. The flowers are greenish. They are in a head. The fruit is a red berry. It is 8-10 mm across. It has 1 or 2 seeds.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. In Nepal it grows between 1100-2700 m altitude. It grows in forests and shrubby areas. In China it grows in southern provinces between 1000-2900 m altitude.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed.

NOTES

There are about 300 Smilax species.

REFERENCES

Chen Xinqi, Liang Songyun, Xu Jiemei, Tamura M.N., Liliaceae. Flora of China. p 30

A. Dc. Monogr. Phan. 1:102. 1878

Dangol, D. R. et al, 2017, Wild Edible Plants in Nepal. Proceedings of 2nd National Workshop on CUAOGR, 2017.

Joshi, N., et al, 2007, Traditional neglected vegetables of Nepal: Their sustainable utilization for meeting human needs. Tropentag 2007. Conference on International Agricultural Research for Development.

Manandhar, N.P., 2002, Plants and People of Nepal. Timber Press. Portland, Oregon. p 429

Ulian, T., et al, 2020, Unlocking plant resources to support food security and promote sustainable agriculture. Plants, People, Planet. 2020;2:421–445.

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/d2de991b-74ee-4759-a9fd-1c888cbecb91