PLANT FACT SHEET

Cucumis hirsutus Sond.

GENUS *Cucumis* **FAMILY** Cucurbitaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Fruit, Vegetable

The leaves are eaten cooked.
The fruit are occasionally eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. A pumpkin family plant that keeps growing from year to year. It has a tuberous root. The stems and stiff and angular. The leaves vary in shape. They can be 8-12 cm long. The male and female flowers occur separately. The male flowers are long and 2.5 cm across. They occur as 1-3 together. The female flowers occur singly. The fruit is oval and 3 cm across. It has a few hairs. The fruit are mottled green and white. The seeds are small.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows between 150-2,500 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places. It grows in open woodland.

NOTES

There are about 25 Cucumis species.

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