PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Arisaema tortuosum* (Wall.) Schott.

**GENUS** *Arisaema* **FAMILY** Araceae

**COMMON NAMES** Jack-in-the-pulpit, Whipcord cobra lily

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Root, Corms, Leaves, Vegetable

The corms are cooked in water then mixed with salt and chilli.
The young leaves are cooked and used as a vegetable.
The fruit are roasted.
The tuberous roots are buried and fermented. They are then dug up and washed and cooked.
The young leaf stalk is soaked overnight in salt water and then pickled or cooked in sour yoghurt.

## DESCRIPTION

A herb which forms tubers. It grows 1.5 m high. The tubers are round and flattened and 2-6 cm across. The leaf stalk is mottled. There are one or two leaves and 11-13 leaflets. These are narrow or sword shaped. The flower spathe is green and the tube is long. The mouth is contracted and has a long pointed tip. The fruit is a berry. The seeds have 4 or 5 angles.

## HABITAT

It is a warm temperate plant. It grows in highland high rainfall areas. In China it grows in rocky slopes, path sides, stream sides, especially in disturbed areas between 1300-2900 m. In Nepal it grows at 1500-2200 m altitude. It suits hardiness zones 7-10. In Sichuan and Yunnan.

## PRODUCTION

### Cultivation

It is grown from corms.

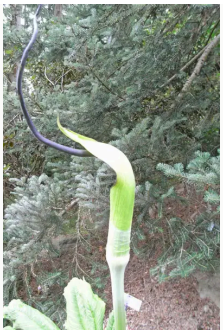
## NOTES

There are about 150-170 Arisaema species.

## PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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WATT (As Arisaema curvatum)

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