PLANT FACT SHEET

Lathyrus linifolius (Reichard) Bassler

GENUS *Lathyrus* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Tuberous bitter vetch, Bitter Vetch, Heath pea, Mountain pea

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Roots, Leaves, Flowers, Seeds

The young first year roots can be cooked and eaten.
The root tubers can be boiled and eaten.
The seeds are roasted and eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It keeps growing from year to year. The stems have wings. The leaves have 2-4 pairs of narrow leaflets. These are 4 cm long and have small points at the end. The flowers are red but turn blue. There are 2-6 flowers together on long stalks. The pods are brown and 25-45 mm long.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It suits hardiness zones 6-9.

NOTES

There are about 150 Lathyrus species.

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