PLANT FACT SHEET

Aristida adscensionis L.

GENUS *Aristida* **FAMILY** Poaceae

COMMON NAMES Common needle grass, Sixweeks threeawn

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds

DESCRIPTION

An annual herb or bristle grass. It can grow 1 m high. The stalks are rounded. It has a tight leaf sheath. The leaf blade is narrow and has a long point. The flowers is a narrow group or spiklets each with 3 awns. The sharp seeds are shed when ripe.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. In Zimbabwe it grows below 600 m. It needs a rainfall above 250 mm. It is often on sandy soils. In China it grows on dry mountain slopes and along river banks between 200-1,800 m above sea level. In Argentina it grows between 200-4,000 m above sea level.

NOTES

It is a rough grass for grazing on poor soils.

REFERENCES

Rivera, D. et al, 2006, Gathered Mediterranean Food Plants - Ethnobotanical Investigations and Historical Development, in Heinrich M, Müller WE, Galli C (eds): Local Mediterranean Food Plants and Nutraceuticals. Forum Nutr. Basel, Karger, 2006, vol 59, pp 18–74

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/e0c2e06f-a673-4ee7-a249-3905492f46d9