PLANT FACT SHEET

Tradescantia spathacea (Swartz.) Stearn

GENUS *Tradescantia* **FAMILY** Commelinaceae

COMMON NAMES Purple leaved spiderwort

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves

The young shoots are eaten. The leaves and flowers are eaten as a potherb.

DESCRIPTION

A succulent plant which creeps over the ground. The stems can be 25 cm long. It can attach to and climb on walls and rocks. The leaves are narrowly oval and 15-20 cm long by 2-3 cm wide. The leaf blades are reddish-purple underneath. The bracts are purple on the outside and pink inside. The flowers are white and in a boat shaped spathe. The fruit is a capsule with 2 seeds.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. In Fiji it grows at low altitudes. In Townsville Queens BG.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown by seeds or suckers.

NOTES

There is only one Rhoeo species.
Probably in a hot house in Slovenia.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/e1f4539a-b643-4c5c-9822-37f4130ded48