PLANT FACT SHEET

Use with caution

This plant can be harmful if it is eaten raw, in large amounts or without the right preparation. Read the whole fact sheet before use.

Sicyos polyacanthus Cogn.

GENUS *Sicyos* **FAMILY** Cucurbitaceae

COMMON NAMES Bur cucumber

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit is a strong purgative. The sap of the plant irritates the skin. They should not be eaten without special processing.
A starch is extracted from the plant.

DESCRIPTION

A climbing herb. It is a pumpkin family plant. It grows each year from seeds. It is a climber. It can be 4-10 m long. The male and female flowers are separate on the same plant. The fruit are 1 cm long with one large seed.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in woodland and wooded grassland. It grows between 950-1,550 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places.

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/e332ee2b-b7f0-48d9-b86b-eb8ed6ca7788