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.

Fritillaria cirrhosa D.Don

GENUS *Fritillaria* **FAMILY** Liliaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Root, Bulb, Fruit

The roots are boiled or roasted and eaten.
The female flower parts are chewed.
Caution: Most fritillarias are poisonous if eaten.

DESCRIPTION

A bulb plant. It is an erect herb. The bulb has 2 scales and is 1-2 cm across. The plant grows to about 75 cm high. There are 7-11 leaves. The leaves do not have leaf stalks. They are narrow. The lower leaves are opposite but the upper leaves are in a ring. The uppermost leaves have a thin string like tip. The flowers occur singly and droop. They are yellow with dark purple spots. The fruit is a capsule with wings.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. In Nepal they grow from 3000-4500 m altitude. The grow in exposed, alpine grassland. It grows in forests and alpine thickets and moist places in China between 3200-4600 m. It is often on limestone soils. It needs humus-rich, moisture retaining soil. It needs cool damp summers. It suits hardiness zones 4-9. In Sichuan and Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from bulbs.

NOTES

There are about 100 Fritillaria species. The bulbs are used in medicine.

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