PLANT FACT SHEET

Martynia annua L.

GENUS *Martynia* **FAMILY** Martyniaceae

COMMON NAMES Devil's claw, Tiger claw

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Fruit, Bark

The leaves are eaten.
The fruit is eaten.
The bark of the fruit is chewed.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It is branched and grows 1.5 m high. The stem is succulent. The leaves are opposite and almost heart shaped. They are 7-15 cm long and 7-20 cm wide. There are small teeth. The flowers are showy and lilac and mottled red, blue or yellow inside. The fruit is a capsule 3 cm long.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows near Bombay in India. In Pakistan it grows up to about 1,000 m altitude. In southern China it grows between 500-1,500 m above sea level.

NOTES

The fruit is used in medicine. There is only one Martynia species. (?) Several names are unresolved. It grows in Mexico.

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