PLANT FACT SHEET

Barleria opaca (Vahl) Nees

GENUS *Barleria* **FAMILY** Acanthaceae

COMMON NAMES Child's vegetable

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Vegetable

The leaves are cooked as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

A straggling herb or shrub. It has a white coating. It sometimes forms roots at the nodes. The leaves are simple and opposite. They are 8 cm long by 4 cm wide. They taper at both ends. The flowers are in groups of 1-3 in the axils of leaves. The flowers are white. The fruit are spindle-shaped capsules. They are 1 cm long. There are 2 seeds.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows as an under-shrub in West Africa. It grows in the lowlands.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from cuttings.

NOTES

There are over 250 Barleria species.

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