PLANT FACT SHEET

Tanacetum vulgare L.

GENUS *Tanacetum* **FAMILY** Asteraceae

COMMON NAMES Tansy

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Flowers - tea, Leaves, Herb, Spice

CAUTION: It contains toxic properties. It contains thujone.
The leaves are used as flavouring in egg dishes.
The fresh leaves are added to desserts.
The leaves are somewhat bitter and used to flavour pastries, pies and marinade.
The leaves and flowers are brewed into a bitter lemon flavoured tea. They are also added to beer.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It grows 90-120 cm high. It spreads 90-120 cm wide. The leaves are divided along the stalk. They look like feathers. The leaves are 12-25 cm long. The leaves are very green and have an aroma and bitter taste. The flowers are bright yellow and occur in clusters. These are about 7 mm wide and the clusters 10 cm wide. They do not have petals.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It will grow in most soils. It needs an open sunny position. It suits hardiness zones 4-9.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown by seed or by division.

NOTES

Used as a medicine. Used as an insecticide. There are about 70 Tanacetum species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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