PLANT FACT SHEET

Xanthosoma robustum Schott

GENUS *Xanthosoma* **FAMILY** Araceae

COMMON NAMES Ape

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Tubers, Root, Leaves

It has been reported as used in Guatemala.
The young leaves are eaten in soup.
The roots are possibly poisonous.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It is in the taro family. The stem can be 1-4 m long and 10-20 cm thick. They often lie along the ground. The leaf stalks are 40-180 cm long. The leaf blades are oval to sword shaped and can be 2 m long.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in wet soil and usually boggy ground. It grows up to 900 m above sea level in Central America,

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It is grown from offshoots.

NOTES

There are 57 Xanthosoma species.

REFERENCES

de Polle, E., Plantas Silvestres Comestible de Guatemala. 1(1) Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala.

Diaz-Betancourt, M., et al, 1999, Weeds as a future source for human consumption. Rev. Biol. Trop. 47(3):329-338

Kermath, B. M., et al, 2014, Food Plants in the Americas: A survey of the domesticated, cultivated and wild plants used for Human food in North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. On line draft. p 927

Larios, et al., 2013, Plant management and biodiversity conservation in Náhuatl homegardens of the Tehuacán Valley, Mexico. Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine 2013 9:74.

Mapes, C. & Basurto, F., 2016, Biodiversity and Edible Plants of Mexico. Chapter 5 in R. Lira, et al. (eds.), Ethnobotany of Mexico, Ethnobiology, Springer. p 112, 116

Oesterr. Bot. Wochenbl. 3:370. 1853

Pena, F. B., et al, 1998, Los quelites de la Sierra Norte de Puebla, Mexico: Inventory Y Formas de Preparacion. Bol. Soc. Bot. Mexico 62:49-62

Standley, P. & Steyermark, J., 1958, Flora of Guatemala. Fieldiana: Botany, Volume 24 part 1 p 362

Staples, G.W. and Herbst, D.R., 2005, A tropical Garden Flora. Bishop Museum Press, Honolulu, Hawaii. p 613

Sukarya, D. G., (Ed.) 2013, 3,500 Plant Species of the Botanic Gardens of Indonesia. LIPI p 1141

Turreira-Garcia, N., et al, 2015, Wild edible plant knowledge, distribution and transmission: a case study of the Achi Mayans of Guatemala. Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine. 11:52

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/e8211c09-8fd9-4d15-afa4-284a9e41d628