PLANT FACT SHEET

Asclepias depressa (Schltr.) Schltr.

GENUS *Asclepias* **FAMILY** Apocynaceae

COMMON NAMES Mankiling, Balloon cotton bush

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Stems, Flowers, Pods, Roots

The leaves are eaten raw or cooked. The stems, flowers and pods are also similarly used.
The roots are eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A slender herb. It grows 30-150 cm long and can be lying along the ground. It branches at the base and can have several spreading and hairy stems. The stems are thick and with a waxy coating. It has a milky sap. The leaves are simple and spreading. They are broad at the base and taper to the tip. The leaves are greyish green and clustered near the top of the plant. They are oval and can be 15 cm long. The flowers are in a single group at the top. There are 6-8 flowers in the group with equal length stalks from one point. The flowers are small and 5 mm long. The fruit is a follicle tapering to a beak. The fruit are balloon like and covered with soft spines and has milky sap. These pods can be 5 cm long and have many flat seeds with silky hairs.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown by seeds. It can be grown by cuttings or division.

NOTES

Also put in the family Asclepiadaceae.
Medicine,

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