PLANT FACT SHEET

**Use with caution**

This plant can be harmful if it is eaten raw, in large amounts or without the right preparation. Read the whole fact sheet before use.

# *Dioscorea hirtiflora* Benth.

**GENUS** *Dioscorea* **FAMILY** Dioscoreaceae

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Tubers, Root

Caution: The tubers have to have the toxins removed before eating. They need to be soaked for a long time. They are then cooked and eaten.

## DESCRIPTION

A yam. There are 1-6 tubers. They are up to 5 cm across. They are narrow and extend downwards into the soil. The stems twine right-handed. They do not have prickles. They can climb 6 m high. The leaves are usually opposite and the leaf blade in entire. The leaves are 6 cm across. The flowers are in loose arrangements. There are 3 subspecies.

## HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in the savannah.

## NOTES

There are about 650 species of Dioscorea.

## REFERENCES


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