PLANT FACT SHEET

Allium acuminatum Hook.

GENUS *Allium* **FAMILY** Amaryllidaceae

COMMON NAMES Hooker's onion, Pink wild onion, Taper-tip Onion

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Flowers, Leaves, Roots, Bulb

The bulb is eaten raw or cooked in early spring.
The leaves are eaten raw or cooked.
The flowers are eaten raw in salads.
The seed heads can be placed in hot ashes to extract the seeds which are then eaten.

DESCRIPTION

An onion family plant with a bulb. It grows to 30 cm tall and spreads to 8 cm across. The leaves are 12 mm long. The leaves taper to the tip. The bulb is 10-15 mm wide. The flowers are pinkish purple. They are urn shaped.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant. It grows naturally in Western North America from Washington to Northern California amongst dry sunny rocks on hills and plains. It grows in a sunny position in a light well drained soil. They do not suit cool wet climates. It suits hardiness zones 4-9.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Bulbs need to be planted fairly deeply. It should not be grown with legumes as it limits their growth. Plants can be grown from seed or by division of clumps. Seeds take a year to establish.

NOTES

There are about 300-700 Allium species. Most species of Allium are edible (Flora of China). All alliums are edible but they may not all be worth eating!
They have also been put in the family Alliaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

REFERENCES

Beckstrom-Sternberg, Stephen M., and James A. Duke. "The Foodplant Database." http://probe.nalusda.gov:8300/cgi-bin/browse/foodplantdb. (ACEDB version 4.0 - data version July 1994)

Brickell, C. (Ed.), 1999, The Royal Horticultural Society A-Z Encyclopedia of Garden Plants. Convent Garden Books. p 95

Couture, M. D., 1978, Recent and Contemporary Foraging Practices of the Harney Valley Paiute. Thesis, Portland State University

Coutre, M. D., et al, 1986, Foraging Behaviour of a Contemporary Northern Great Basin Population. Journal of California and Great Bason Anthropology Vol. 8(2) pp 150-160

Cundall, P., (ed.), 2004, Gardening Australia: flora: the gardener's bible. ABC Books. p 125

Fl. bor.-amer. 2:184, t. 196. 1838

Plants for a Future database, The Field, Penpol, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, PL22 0NG, UK. http://www.scs.leeds.ac.uk/pfaf/

Turner, N., 1995, Food Plants of Coastal First Peoples. Royal BC Museum Handbook p 40

Turner, N., 1997, Food Plants of Interior First Peoples. Royal BC Museum Handbook p 59

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/eddc78ab-1d93-4a14-aaf9-c233c90c966b