PLANT FACT SHEET

Tephrosia linearis (Willd.) Pers.

GENUS *Tephrosia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves

The leaves are used for flavouring. They are pulped and added to milk or to millet or guinea corn as a seasoning.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It grows each year from seeds. It grows 1 m high. The leaves have 3-6 pairs of leaflets. The leaflets are 15-40 mm long by 1-4 mm wide. The flowers are in the axils of leaves or at the ends of branches. They are in groups 12 cm long. The petals are yellow or red. The fruit are pods 40-55 mm long by 3-4 mm wide. They are brown and have hairs. There are 9-13 seeds. These are 2-3 mm long by 2 mm wide.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in sandy and grassy places in West Africa. It grows up to 2,400 m above sea level. It grows in dry sandy and poorly drained soils. It grows in areas with an annual rainfall 800-1,500 mm. It can grow in arid places.

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