PLANT FACT SHEET

Crocus cartwrightianus Herb.

GENUS *Crocus* **FAMILY** Iridaceae

COMMON NAMES Wild saffron crocus

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Styles, flower, Flowers, Spice

The flower styles are sometimes collected for saffron.

DESCRIPTION

A low plant which forms corms. It keeps growing from year to year. There are 5-11 leaves and these are grey-green. They are 0.5-1.5 mm wide. The flowers are pale or deep lilac-purple. They are strongly veined on the outside. They can be a darker colour towards the base. The stamen have yellow anthers and a white or purple stalk. The style is divided into 3 very long and deep red branches. They are flared at the tip. Each is 15-27 mm long.

HABITAT

It grows on rocky hillsides and in grassy places.

REFERENCES

Blamey, M and Grey-Wilson, C., 2005, Wild flowers of the Mediterranean. A & C Black London. p 498

Edward's Bot. Reg. 29: misc. 82. 1843

Seidemann J., 2005, World Spice Plants. Economic Usage, Botany, Taxonomy. Springer. p 121

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/f35fc487-421f-4f64-8a42-a5189c7a2242