PLANT FACT SHEET

Momordica cissoides Planch. ex Benth.

GENUS *Momordica* **FAMILY** Cucurbitaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Seeds, Vegetable

DESCRIPTION

A pumpkin family vine. It is a climbing or trailing herb. The stems can be 1-2 m long. It grows each year from seed. The flowers are white with a large black-purple spot on the base of each petal. The fruit are fleshy and 4 cm long. They are prickly and orange-yellow and have red seeds.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in secondary forest in West Africa. It is often in forests along rivers. It can grow up to 1,850 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Central African Republic it flowers are fruits in January and February.

NOTES

There are about 50 Momordica species. It is also used in medicine.

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PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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