PLANT FACT SHEET

Amorphophallus dracontioides (Engl.) N. E. Br.

GENUS *Amorphophallus* **FAMILY** Araceae

COMMON NAMES Gwazar giwa, Kinciyar

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Corms, Tuber, Root

The corms need extensive processing before eating. They are cut and washed and boiled for one or two days. This removes the acrid oxalates.

DESCRIPTION

A herb. It has a disk shaped tuber. This is 10-25 cm across and 5-15 cm high. It is grey brown on the outside and white inside. It produces round offsets. The leaf is up to 1.2 m tall on a stalk 40-100 cm long and 1-2 cm across. It has purple spots on which near the base and then becomes purple. The leaf blade is 50-100 cm across and divided into leaflets. These are 9-30 cm long by 1-3 cm wide. The flower appears before the leaf. The flowering stalk is 5-30 cm long by 1-2 cm wide. It is purple with green spots. The spathe is 10-45 cm high and with a hood over the spadix. The spathe is nearly closed. The spadix is 1-2 cm long. The flowers are congested. The fruit are single seeded berries. The flower has the smell of rotten meat. This attracts flied that pollinate it.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in seasonally wet grassland.

NOTES

There are about 170-200 Amorphophallus species.

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