



PLANT FACT SHEET

Anchusa azurea Miller

GENUS *Anchusa* **FAMILY** Boraginaceae

COMMON NAMES Anchusa, Large blue alkanet

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Flowers, Leaves, Seeds, Flower - nectar, Vegetable

The flowers are used in tossed salads.

The young shoots are eaten as a vegetable. They are also eaten raw in salads.

The leaves are eaten raw, boiled or fried.

The flower nectar is sucked as a juice.

DESCRIPTION

A herb that keeps growing from year to year. It grows 45-120 cm high and 45-60 cm wide. The stems are red and have bristles. The lower leaves are 30 cm long. The leaves are hairy. The flowers are saucer shaped and bright blue.

HABITAT

It is a temperate and Mediterranean climate plant. It grows in waste ground and roadsides. It will grow on most soils. It can grow in dry areas. It is best in an open sunny position. It is resistant to drought and frost. It can grow in arid places. It suits hardiness zones 3-9.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown by division.

NOTES

There are about 25-35 *Anchusa* species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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