



PLANT FACT SHEET

Wollastonia biflora (L.) DC

GENUS *Wollastonia* FAMILY Asteraceae

COMMON NAMES Wedelia, Beach Sunflower, Sea daisy, Sunflower daisy

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves - spice, Fruit

The young leaves are cooked with fish to give it flavour, then eaten.

The leaves and roots are used to make a tea drink.

Only small amounts should be eaten.

CAUTION: The flowers and old leaves are claimed to be poisonous.

DESCRIPTION

A trailing shrub which is rough to the touch. It grows to 2 m long. The leaves are opposite and shallowly toothed. They are up to 10-15 cm long and 8-10 cm wide. The stalks are long. There are three nerves near the base. The leaf stalk is 3-4 cm long. The flower heads are about 2.5 cm wide. These develop at the ends of branches or from the axils of the upper leaves. There are about 8 flowers around the edge then 20-30 flowers in the central disk. The fruit are wedge shaped and 2-3 mm long.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. They are mostly along rocky shores. It grows from sea level to about 500 m above sea level. It is common near sea coasts. In Papua New Guinea they occur from sea level to 700 m altitude. In Sichuan and Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from cuttings.

NOTES

It is used in medicine.

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