



PLANT FACT SHEET

Solanum retroflexum Dunal

GENUS *Solanum* FAMILY Solanaceae

COMMON NAMES Sunberry, Wonderberry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Leaves - flavouring

The ripe fruit are eaten and used for jam. They taste better cooked.

Caution: The fruit are edible when ripe but poisonous when green.

The leaves are cooked and eaten as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

A spreading annual herb. It grows 50-100 cm high. The stems are angled and grooved. The leaves simple and alternate and can have lobes or teeth. There are spreading hairs on the stems. The flowers are in small groups and are drooping. They are in the axils of leaves. The flowers are white, star shaped and 16 mm across. The fruit are green but turn black and 8 mm across. There are many seeds.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in hot arid places with a marked dry season. It grows between 10-2,730 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds. Seeds have a low germination. They need light to germinate. Treated seeds with potassium nitrate (salt peter) germinate better.

NOTES

There are about 1400 *Solanum* species.

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