



PLANT FACT SHEET

Dolichos kilimandscharicus subsp. kilimandscharicus

GENUS *Dolichos* FAMILY Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Dolichos flower, Bully-beef plant, Wild Lupin

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Flowers

The flowers are often cooked with other leaves.

DESCRIPTION

An erect perennial herb. It puts up stems each year from a woody rootstock. These are 0.25-1.2 m tall. The flowers normally develop when the leaves are absent. The roots are large and tuberous and have red and white streaks. The leaves are compound leaves. Normally there are 3-4 leaflets. They are 2-18 cm long and 1-8 cm wide. They can vary in shape. The tips can be pointed or blunt and the base can be rounded or heart shaped. The flowers are purple. Between 1 and 4 flowers occur in clusters in the axils of leaves. The fruit is a pod. It is 4-9 cm long and 1-1.5 cm wide. The seeds are orange and almost square. They are 6-9 mm long by 4.7 mm wide.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in open woodland or grassland. In Ethiopia it grows between 1000 and 1700 m altitude.

REFERENCES

- FAO, 1988, Traditional Food Plants, FAO Food and Nutrition Paper 42. FAO Rome p 252 (As *Dolichos burchanarii*)
Jardin, C., 1970, List of Foods Used In Africa, FAO Nutrition Information Document Series No 2, p 75 (As *Dolichos burchanarii*)
Terra, G.J.A., 1973, Tropical Vegetables. Communication 54e Royal Tropical Institute, Amsterdam, p 45 (As *Dolichos burchanarii*)

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