



## PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Paederia foetida* L.

GENUS *Paederia* FAMILY Rubiaceae

COMMON NAMES Chinese feervine

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Leaves, Roots, Plant - tea

The young leaves have an unpleasant smell but can be eaten as a vegetable. They are used for pastry, tea or soup. The leaves can be eaten cooked as a vegetable. (The smell disappears with cooking) The leaves can be stored for 3-4 days.

## DESCRIPTION

A small woody climber. The stems are tough and can be slightly hairy. It is evergreen. It grows 2-4 m high. The plant has fine grey hairs over it. The leaves are opposite and narrowly oval. The leaves are 8-11 cm long by 3-4 cm wide. The leaves have an unpleasant smell when crushed. The leaf stalk is 7-25 mm long. The flower panicles can be in axils of leaves or at the end of branches. They are 4-30 cm long. The flower tube is white and hairy outside and dark purple inside. The fruit are oval or oval and red or yellow. The fruit is round. They are 4-6 mm across. They are shiny yellow-brown.

## HABITAT

A tropical plant. It is often near river banks. It grows in scrub and evergreen forest. It climbs over thickets and fences. It also climbs over mangroves. In Indonesia it grows up to about 2,000 m above sea level. In Sichuan and Yunnan.

## PRODUCTION

### Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds. They can also be grown from roots.

## NOTES

It is used in medicine.

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