



PLANT FACT SHEET

Hygroryza aristata (Retz.) Nees ex Wight & Arnott

GENUS *Hygroryza* FAMILY Poaceae

COMMON NAMES Bengal wild rice

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Cereal

The grain is eaten when food is scarce. It is cooked as rice.

DESCRIPTION

A grass which grows in water and keeps growing from year to year. It floats and forms dense mats. The stems are 1.5 m long. They are spongy and have irregular branching. Stems root at the nodes. The leaf sheath is inflated. The leaf blade is 3-6 cm long by 5-17 mm wide. The leaves are in pairs and float on the water. The flower panicle has 4-5 main branches. They are in rings at the top of the stalk. The spikelets have one flower. The seed is 2-3 mm long.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in quiet water and can creep over wet ground. It grows in shallow water up to 60 cm deep. It is floating. It grows up to 350 m altitude. In Yunnan.

NOTES

There is only one *Hygroryza* species.

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