Apocynaceae

Common names

Bow-string hemp, Crown-flower, Giant

Scientific name

Calotropis gigantea



Edible portion Manna, Plant - drink, Flowers,

Description

An evergreen shrub. It grows to 5 m high. The stems are covered with white woolly hairs. The leaves are simple and opposite. The leaves are fattened oval shape. They are 10-16 cm long by 8-10 cm wide. They are woolly and the veins are light. The flowers are about 5 cm across.

Distribution

It is a tropical plant. They can grow in hot dry situations. They can grow in humid climates if they have very good drainage. They can tolerate salt. It can grow in arid places. In southern China it grows in woods in dry areas and along stream banks from sea level to 1,400 m above sea level. It suits hardiness zones 10-11.

Found in:

Africa, Angola, Asia, Cambodia, Central Africa, Central America, China, East Africa, East Timor, Guianas, Guyana, Hawaii, Himalayas, India, Indochina, Indonesia, Kenya, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Micronesia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Northeastern India, Pacific, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, PNG, Philippines, Samoa, SE Asia, Seychelles, South America, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad-Tobago, USA, Venezuela, Vietnam, West Indies, West Timor,

Use

An alcoholic drink is made from the leaves. Caution: Alcohol is a cause of cancer.
The plant yields a kind of manna.
The flowers are made into a sweet meat.
The leaves are cooked with alkali and dry fish.
CAUTION: The milky sap is poisonous. It can also cause skin irritation.

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. They can also be grown from cuttings.

Please Note: Except where otherwise noted, content on this site is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Licence - this means you can share it freely, as is and with acknowledgement.

Production

Nutritional Values

Calotropis gigantea

Edible Part /100 g edible portion	**Moisture %**	**Energy KJ**	**Energy Kcal**	**Protein g**	**Provit A µg**	**Vit C mg**	**Iron mg**	**Zinc mg**
Manna								

FOOD PLANTS INTERNATIONAL

Helping the Hungry Feed Themselves Well...
... through the strategic use of God's amazing natural resources



