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Tagetes minuta

[Synonyms : *Tagetes bonariensis*, *Tagetes glandulifera*, *Tagetes glandulosa*, *Tagetes porophyllum*]

INCA MARIGOLD is an invasive annual. Native to South America it has tiny pale yellow flowers.

It is also known as Khaki bush, Khaki weed, Khali weed, *Lang Kakiebos* (Afrikaans), Mexican marigold, Mubangi (Kikuyu), Muster-John-Henry, Southern marigold, Stinking Roger, *Stinktagetes* (Swedish), and Tall khaki weed.

The leaves yield an essential oil.

Minuta means ‘very small’.

This plant has been grown between food crops as an insect and vermin repellent. It is believed to be able to protect potatoes (*Solanum tuberosum*) from eelworm and it can kill some neighbouring weeds.

The essential oil has provided an insect repellent.

Medicinally, the leaves are used in tropical America as a remedy for stomach upsets – and the essential oil has been used for killing maggots in wounds. This species has been employed in the past in remedies for respiratory problems, for lowering blood pressure and for reducing inflammation.