PLANT FACT SHEET

Nitraria retusa (Forsskal) Aschers

GENUS *Nitraria* **FAMILY** Nitrariaceae

COMMON NAMES Lotus tree, Nitre bush, Salt tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Berries, Fruit, Seeds

The fruit are eaten raw. They are also used for sugar.

DESCRIPTION

An erect shrub. It is spiny. It keeps growing from year to year. The leaves are fleshy and alternate. They have a bitter taste. The flowers are white and in loose clusters. The fruit are red and fleshy.

HABITAT

It is a Mediterranean climate plant. It grows in salty and alkaline soils. It grows in dry soil. It grows in areas with an annual rainfall above 100 mm. It grows below 600 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places. It grows in the Sahara.

NOTES

There are 9 Nitraria species. It is also put in the family Zygophyllaceae.

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