PLANT FACT SHEET

Searsia undulata (Jacq.) Moffett

GENUS *Searsia* **FAMILY** Anacardiaceae

COMMON NAMES Kuni bush

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are eaten. The fruit are rubbed between the hands to remove the tough skin then eaten fresh.
They are used for porridges and in relishes. The dried fruit are eaten as a relish.
For porridge they are cleaned of their husks and put in milk for 4 hours before eating.
They are also used for beer.

DESCRIPTION

An evergreen shrub or small tree. It has several stems. The leaves have a scent. The bark has spines. The bark is grey and smooth. It grows up to 3-5 m high. The leaves are divided into 3 small leaflets. The edges of the leaves are wavy. The flowers are small and green or cream. They are in heads 5 cm long in the axils of leaves or near the ends of branches. The fruit are shiny and green but turn red when ripe. They are round and 5-6 mm across.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. It grows on sandy soils or amongst rocks that are neutral or alkaline. In southern Africa it grows between 20-1,250 m altitude. It is often in dry, semi-desert places. It can grow in arid places.

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