PLANT FACT SHEET

Leptadenia pyrotechnica (Forssk.) Decne

GENUS *Leptadenia* **FAMILY** Apocynaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Flowers, Fruits, Pods, Twigs, Roots, Vegetable

The tuberous roots are eaten as a vegetable.
The young flowers are eaten raw.
The leaves, young shoots and flowers are used to flavour soups.

DESCRIPTION

A densely branching shrub. It can grow to 4 m high. The young branches can have many small leaves but these fall off. The stems are green and capture sunlight. The flowers are yellow and 5-7 mm across. They grow in clusters on the stem. They have 5 petals. The fruit are seed pods that are long, thick, slightly curved and pointed. The seeds are attached by silky hairs.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in the desert. It grows in sandy, gravelly and stony soils. It grows in the Sahel in West Africa. It grows in areas with an annual rainfall between 100-400 mm. It can grow in arid places. It is highly salt tolerant.

NOTES

It is important in medicine.

REFERENCES

Ambasta S.P. (Ed.), 2000, The Useful Plants of India. CSIR India. p 324

Burkill, H. M., 1985, The useful plants of west tropical Africa, Vol. 1. Kew.

Flora of Pakistan.

Grubben, G. J. H. and Denton, O. A. (eds), 2004, Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 2. Vegetables. PROTA, Wageningen, Netherlands. p 368

Hahn, K., et al, 2018, The use of wild plants for food: a national scale analysis for Burkina Faso (West Africa). FVSS FoodPlants Supplement

Harris, F. M. A. and Salisu Mohammed, 2003, Relying on nature: Wild Foods in Northern Nigeria. AMBIO Vol. 32 No. 1, p 27

Iqbal, J., et al, 2022, Nutritional and mineral composition analysis of desert plants: A case study. Emirates Journal of Food and Agriculture. 34(10): 882-887

Jardin, C., 1970, List of Foods Used In Africa, FAO Nutrition Information Document Series No 2.p 86, 145

Karim, F. M. & Dakheel, A, J., 2006, Salt-tolerant plants of the United Arab Emirates. 2006. International Center for Biosaline Agriculture, Dubai, UAE.

Le Houerou, H. N., (Ed.), 1980, Browse in Africa. The current state of knowledge. International Livestock Centre for Africa, Ethiopia. p 161

Mandaville, J. P., 2004, Bedouin ethnobotany: Plant concepts and plant use in a desert pastoral world. PhD thesis University of Arizona. p 163

Martin, F.W. & Ruberte, R.M., 1979, Edible Leaves of the Tropics. Antillian College Press, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico. p 178

Maydell, H. von, 1990, Trees and shrubs of the Sahel: their characteristics and uses. Margraf. p 315

Nassif, F., & Tanji, A., 2013, Gathered food plants in Morocco: The long forgotten species in Ethnobotanical Research. Life Science Leaflets 3:17-54

Norton, J., et al, 2009, An Illustrated Checklist of the Flora of Qatar. UNESCO Office in Doha.

Phillips, D.C., 1988, Wild Flowers of Bahrain. A Field Guide to Herbs, Shrubs, and Trees. Privately published. p 135

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (1999). Survey of Economic Plants for Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (SEPASAL) database. Published on the Internet; http://www.rbgkew.org.uk/ceb/sepasal/internet [Accessed 30th March 2011]

Singh, H.B., Arora R.K.,1978, Wild edible Plants of India. Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi. p 78

World Checklist of Useful Plant Species 2020. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/34fa2acb-b7c8-4394-a4c5-e7318eb79c7c