PLANT FACT SHEET

Poisonous

This plant, or parts of it, can be poisonous. Do not eat it unless you know which parts are safe and how they must be prepared.

Albizia versicolor Welw. ex Oliver

GENUS *Albizia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Poison-pod albizia

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

The unripe seeds and pods are poisonous to animals.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It grows 5-18 m high. The crown is flat and spreading. The bark is rough and greyish-brown. The young branches have a rusty covering. The leaves are compound. The leaflets are few and broad. There are 1-4 leaflet stalks and 3-6 pairs of leaflets along these. The leaflets are 2-6 cm long by 1-5 cm wide. They are broadly oval. They are very hairy underneath. The flowers are white to greenish-yellow. The fruit is a pod 10-27 cm long by 3-7 cm wide. The seeds are flattened and about 1 cm across.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. In east Africa it grows from sea level to 1,500 m altitude. It is best on well-drained soils.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds or root suckers. Fresh seeds grow easily but stored seeds need soaking in water.

NOTES

It contains a poison called tetramethoxypyridoxine. Also as Mimosaceae.

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PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/35571b42-75c8-4196-91f8-8753f78c5244