PLANT FACT SHEET

Boscia coriacea Pax

GENUS *Boscia* **FAMILY** Capparaceae

COMMON NAMES Qalqalq, Mnafisi

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Seeds, Twigs - flavouring

The fruit is eaten after long boiling. The fruit are pounded to remove the outer coat. The seeds are boiled briefly to remove the outer skin then the cotyledons (seed leaves) are boiled changing the water several times before eating.
The ripe fruit is sucked for its sweet taste.

DESCRIPTION

An evergreen shrub. It usually has several stems and many branches. It can grow 1-6 m tall. The bark is smooth and dark grey. The leaves are light green and leathery. They are narrowly oval with a sharp point. The flowers are creamy green. They are in dense groups 3 cm wide. The fruit are light green. They have a fleshy coat. The seeds are enclosed in a white skin.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in drier areas. It is usually on salty or sandy soils. It can grow between 150-1,500 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds sown directly in the field where they are to grow.

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