PLANT FACT SHEET

Capparis sepiaria var. subglabra (Oliv.) De Wolf.

GENUS *Capparis* **FAMILY** Capparaceae

COMMON NAMES Caper tree, Cape capers, Hedge caper-bush

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Buds

The buds can be pickled as capers.

DESCRIPTION

A climber or shrub. It has rigid spiny branches. The leaves are arranged in spirals. They vary in shape and size. They tend to be oval and narrow. They can be 1.3-6.2 cm long and 2.5 cm wide. The leaves are pink when young. There are sharp curved spines. The flowers occur on short side branches. The fruit are round. They are about 1.3 cm wide and soft. They are smooth and purple-black when ripe. There can be several brown seeds inside. The buds can be pickled as capers.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in coastal scrub and coastal dunes.

NOTES

There are about 250 Capparis species. There are about 50 Capparis species in tropical America.

REFERENCES

Palgrave, K.C., 1996, Trees of Southern Africa. Struik Publishers. p 184

www.zimbabweflora.co.zw 2011

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/3ef4566a-fa5c-44bf-a2fb-e188d437c32e