PLANT FACT SHEET

Zygophyllum fabago Linn.

GENUS *Zygophyllum* **FAMILY** Zygophyllaceae

COMMON NAMES Bean caper, Syrian bean caper

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Flowers, Spice, Fruit

The flower buds are pickled and used as a caper substitute.

DESCRIPTION

A hairless perennial herb. It has erect stems 1 m tall. The leaves have 2 oval fleshy leaflets. The leaf stalk extends beyond the leaflets. The flowers are white with an orange centre. They are 9-11 mm across and occur singly in the axils of the upper leaves. The petals are oblong and longer than the sepals. The fruit is a capsule which hangs down. It is cylinder shaped and 20-35 mm long.

HABITAT

It is a temperate and Mediterranean climate plant. It grows on dry rocky and sandy places.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

REFERENCES

Blamey, M and Grey-Wilson, C., 2005, Wild flowers of the Mediterranean. A & C Black London. p 115

Facciola, S., 1998, Cornucopia 2: a Source Book of Edible Plants. Kampong Publications, p 249

Hedrick, U.P., 1919, (Ed.), Sturtevant's edible plants of the world. p 708

Heywood, V.H., Brummitt, R.K., Culham, A., and Seberg, O. 2007, Flowering Plant Families of the World. Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew. p 338

Jia, X., et al, 2022, Ethnobotany of wild edible plants in multiethnic areas of the Gansu–Ningxia–Inner Mongolia junction zone. Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine 18:53

Joshi, A., et al, 2018, Halophytes of Thar Desert: Potential source of nutrition and feedstuff. International Journal of Bioassays 8.1 (2018) pp. 5674-5683

Motti, R., et al, 2022, Edible Flowers Used in Some Countries of the Mediterranean Basin: An Ethnobotanical Overview. Plants. 2022, 11, 3272

Sp. pl. 1:385. 1753

Tanaka,

Tardio, J., et al, Ethnobotanical review of wild edible plants in Spain. Botanical J. Linnean Soc. 152 (2006), 27-71

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/44124362-7016-4db4-b002-90d81fff6e35