PLANT FACT SHEET

Boscia salicifolia Oliv.

GENUS *Boscia* **FAMILY** Capparaceae

COMMON NAMES Willowed-leaved Boscia

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Berries, Fruit, Leaves, Root, Bark, Flowers, Seeds

The fruit are occasionally eaten. They need to be boiled for a long time.
The seeds are eaten after cooking. They are also added to soups.
The young leaves are occasionally eaten.
The roots are occasionally eaten after being fried.

DESCRIPTION

A medium sized tree. It can grow to 15 m high. It loses its leaves during the year. The bark is dark grey, rough and flaky. The leaves are alternate, long and narrow. They are 7-15 cm long by 1.5-2.5 cm wide. They are dull green and leathery. They remain finely hairy underneath. They taper to both ends. The flowers do not have petals. The stamens are yellowish-green. The fruit is round and 2 cm across. They are smooth and yellow when ripe. They have 1-3 seeds. The seeds are brown and 1 cm across.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in the lowlands and the highlands. It grows on termite mounds and in dry types of woodland. It grows in the Sahel. It grows in areas with a rainfall between 200-400 mm per year and it is resistant to drought. It grows between 200-1,800 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown from seeds. Seedlings have a tendency to damp off.

NOTES

There are 37 Boscia species.

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