PLANT FACT SHEET

Astragalus gummifer Labill.

GENUS *Astragalus* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Tragacanth, Gum tragacanth

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Gum

The gum is used in confectionary. It is used as a thickening agent and emulsifier in salad dressings, syrups, sauces, ice cream, drinks, and puddings.

DESCRIPTION

A low shrub. It is evergreen and umbrella shaped. It grows 30 cm high. The leaves have spiny stalks. The leaves have leaflets along the stalk. There are 4-7 pairs of narrowly oval leaflets. They are 1 cm long. The flowers are small, white and downy. They are pea-like flowers. They are in the axils of leaves.

HABITAT

It is a temperate plant.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed.

NOTES

There are 2,000 Astragalus species.

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/536f543b-13d7-47a6-9f33-7727c9b37b49