PLANT FACT SHEET

Senegalia polyacantha subsp. campylacantha Willd., (A. Rich.) Brenan

GENUS *Senegalia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES White thorn

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Gum, Seeds, Spice

The gum is used in confectionary.

DESCRIPTION

A large deciduous tree. It grows to 20 m high. The bark is pale and flakes off. It can have strongly hooked prickles on the trunk on knobs and on branches. The leaves are compound. They have 13-40 pairs of stalks each with 26-66 pairs of leaflets. The leaflets are small. They are 2-5 mm long by 0.4-0.75 mm wide. They are narrow or triangular. The flowers are in white spikes. These can be 12 cm long. The fruit are straight pods. These are flat and 7-18 cm long by 1-2.1 cm wide. They are brown and taper to both ends.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It occurs in wooded grassland and in soil from rivers in river valleys. It grows in the Sahel. It can grow in arid places.

NOTES

There are about 1,350 Acacia species. Over 1,000 occur in Australia. It is used in medicine. The leaves are used for fodder and in medicine. Also as Mimosaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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