PLANT FACT SHEET

Vachellia bussei (Harms ex Y. Sjostedt) Kyal. & Boatwr.

GENUS *Vachellia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Thorns, Gum, Seeds, Pods, Bark - tea

The seeds are cooked and ground into a powder.
The bark is boiled for tea.

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It grows 4-10 m tall. The crown is flattened. It has spines. There are 2-8 pairs of pinnae with 10-18 pairs of leaflets. They are hairy. The flowers are yellow and in 2-6 cm long spikes. The pods are narrow and oblong. They are 8 cm long by 1.5 cm wide. The seeds are flattened and 5 mm long by 4 mm wide.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It can grow in arid zones or desert. It grows in areas with a rainfall between 130-500 mm per year. In East Africa it grows between 300-1,800 m above sea level.

REFERENCES

Ferns, Useful tropical Plants

Grubben, G. J. H. and Denton, O. A. (eds), 2004, Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 2. Vegetables. PROTA, Wageningen, Netherlands. p 559 (As Acacia bussei)

Mahony, D., 1991, Trees of Somalia. A Field Guide for Development Workers. Oxfam Research Paper 3. p 11 (As Acacia bussei)

Mutie, F. M., et al, 2023, Important Medicinal and Food Taxa (Orders and Families) in Kenya, Based on Three Quantitative Approaches. Plants 2023, 12, 1145

Omer, M., 2011, Diversity of Woody Species, Local Knowledge and Management Practices in Different Land Use Systems of Awbare Wereda, Jig-Jiga Zone of Somali Region, Ethiopia. M. Sc. these Addis Abba University p 47 (As Acacia bussei)

World Checklist of Useful Plant Species 2020. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

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/6a1ed20b-a9db-4181-a31f-12f08af2bc0a