PLANT FACT SHEET

Boswellia papyrifera Hochst.

GENUS *Boswellia* **FAMILY** Burseraceae

COMMON NAMES Ethan, Sudanese frakincense

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Gum, Spice

The resin is used to flavour bread, milk and other drinks. It is also chewed.

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It grows 12 m tall. It loses its leaves during the year. The bark has resin ducts. The trunk is straight and the crown is round. The bark is pale brown and peels off in large flakes. The leaves are large and compound. There are 11-29 leaflets on a long stalk. They are narrowly oval and have a wavy or toothed edge. The flowers have a sweet scent. They are white or pink. They are on long red flower stalks. These are in loose groups at the ends of the branches.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It is drought resistant. It grows on dry rocky sites. Often trees are on steep slopes and in shallow soils.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds. Seeds are best collected from trees that have not been tapped.

Harvesting and Seed Production

The bark is cut and a white resin comes out. This dries in round blobs called frankincense.

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/6f60b461-1ae2-417d-adf4-7df3e33f23c6