PLANT FACT SHEET

Vachellia etbaica (Schweinf.) Kyal. & Boatwr.

GENUS *Vachellia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Gum, Fruit

The ripe fruit are eaten raw.
The gum is chewed and the juice swallowed.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or small tree. It grows 5 m tall. It has an open flattened crown. It can be 3-12 m tall. It has spines in pairs. These are 3 cm long. There are prickles along the stem. The leaves are twice divided and there are 8-18 pairs of pinnae. There are up to 50 pairs of pinnules on each pinnae. The flowers are yellow. They are in large clusters at the ends of branches. The pods are flattened. It is 2-12 cm long by 1-2 cm wide. There are about 8 seeds.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in dry bushland and semi-desert. It grows in areas with an annual rainfall between 200-1,400 mm. It grows between sea level and 1,800 m above sea level. It grows in desert or dry areas.

NOTES

Also as Mimosaceae.

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