PLANT FACT SHEET

Grewia villosa Willd.

GENUS *Grewia* **FAMILY** Malvaceae

COMMON NAMES Round-leaf grewia, Mallow raisons

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves, Fruit, Seeds

The ripe orange fruit are usually eaten raw. The skin is rubbed off and the seeds discarded.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub. It grows 2-4 m tall. It is usually much branched. It loses its leaves during the year. The leaves are oval or round and are large. They are 2.5-14 cm across. They have teeth along the edges. They are copper coloured. There are downy hairs on both surfaces. The leaves are more pale underneath. The fruit is red and hairy. The have 4 shallow lobes. They are 12 mm across. The fruit are edible.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows on rocky soils rich in iron. It grows in drier places. It grows in the Sahel. It occurs in low altitude mixed woodland. It Ethiopia it grows well between 800-1,800 m altitude. It can grow in arid places.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. They are best planted directly.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In Tanzania it is collected May to July. In NW Pakistan fruit are available in July.

NOTES

There are about 200 Grewia species. They are mostly tropical. The fruit of most may be edible. These were in the Sparrmanniaceae and the Tiliaceae.

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