PLANT FACT SHEET

Commiphora giessii J. J. A. van der Walt

GENUS *Commiphora* **FAMILY** Burseraceae

COMMON NAMES Brown-stemmed corkwood

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Stems

The stems are chewed for their moisture.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub. It loses its leaves during the year. It grows 1-3 m high. The bark is smooth and shiny. The leaves have 3 leaflets. The leaflets do not have stalks. Male and female flowers are on separate plants. The flowers are small and red or green. The fruit is almost round.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. It grows in hot arid areas. It grows in places with a marked dry season. It grows in areas with an annual rainfall of 50-200 mm. It grows in well drained rocky soils. In southern Africa it grows between 400-800 m above sea level. It can tolerate drought. It can grow in arid places.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be cut back and will re-grow.

REFERENCES

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (1999). Survey of Economic Plants for Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (SEPASAL) database. Published on the Internet; http://www.rbgkew.org.uk/ceb/sepasal/internet [Accessed 4th April 2011]

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