PLANT FACT SHEET

Tamarix aphylla (Linnaeus) H. Karsten

GENUS *Tamarix* **FAMILY** Tamaricaceae

COMMON NAMES Athel tamarisk, Tamarix manna

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Manna, Gum, Fruit

The sweet manna from the twigs is eaten with porridge or mixed with water to make a drink.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or tree. It grows 10 m tall. The bark is grey or reddish brown. The branches are erect and spreading. The leaves form a sheath around the small branches. The tip has an abrupt sharp point. The flowering shoot is 3-6 cm long. The flowers have 5 parts. They have a small flower stalk. The flowers are pinkish or white.

HABITAT

It is a Mediterranean plant. It grows well in desert regions. It will tolerate salt spray and salty soils. It can grow in arid places. It grows in the Sahara. In Northeastern India it grows up to 900 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be grown from cuttings.

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PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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