PLANT FACT SHEET

Vachellia haematoxylon (Willd.) Seigler & Ebinger

GENUS *Vachellia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Grey camel thorn

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Pods, Fruit, Gum

The resin or gum from the tree is edible.
The pod wall of the fruit is edible.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or small tree. It grows to 6 m high. The bark is grey-brown. The leaves are compound. They have 15-27 pairs if leaflets each with very small leaflets along them. These are so fine they look like teeth. The leaves are densely covered with fine grey hairs. The flowers are in yellow balls. The fruit are long slender pods. These are up to 14 cm long by 1.3 cm wide. They are curved and densely grey and velvety. They are slightly constricted between the seeds.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. It grows in desert and semidesert regions. It occurs on deep red sandy soil. It can grow in arid places.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It is not easy to cultivate.

NOTES

There are about 1,350 Acacia species. Over 1,000 occur in Australia. Also as Mimosaceae.

REFERENCES

Enum. pl. 2:1056. 1809 (As Acacia haematoxylon)

Mannheimer, C. A. & Curtis. B.A. (eds), 2009, Le Roux and Muller's Field Guide to the Trees and Shrubs of Namibia. Windhoek: Macmillan Education Namibia. p 96 (As Acacia haematoxylon)

Palgrave, K.C., 1996, Trees of Southern Africa. Struik Publishers. p 240 (As Acacia haematoxylon)

Palmer, E and Pitman, N., 1972, Trees of Southern Africa. Vol. 2. A.A. Balkema, Cape Town p 775 (As Acacia haematoxylon)

Peters, C. R., O'Brien, E. M., and Drummond, R.B., 1992, Edible Wild plants of Sub-saharan Africa. Kew. p 126 (As Acacia haematoxylon)

Ruiters-Welcome, A. K., 2019, Food plants of southern Africa. Ph.D. thesis. Univ. of Johannesburg p 62

van Wyk, Ben-Erik, 2019, The diversity and multiple uses of southern African legumes. Australian Systematic Botany, 2019, 32, 519–546

Welcome, A. K. & Van Wyk, B.-E., 2019, An inventory and analysis of the food plants of southern Africa. South African Journal of Botany 122 (2019) 136–179

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

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

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/925a1011-14f0-4e74-baf9-7edeeea9c0e6