PLANT FACT SHEET

Terminalia schimperiana Hochst.

GENUS *Terminalia* **FAMILY** Combretaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Root, Leaves

The root is chewed. It is used as a chewstick and due to small amounts of alkaloids has an antibiotic effect helping prevent teeth decay.

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It can grow 7-14 m tall. The trunk is short and gnarled. The bark is dark grey and cracked. The leaves are alternate, simple and broad. They are 9-15 cm long and 3-8 cm wide. They are pale underneath. The flowers are small and in spikes at the base of the leaves.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in savannah woodlands and on the edges of forests. In Nigeria it has been recorded at 1,000 m above sea level. It suits the seasonally dry tropics.

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