PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Maerua juncea* Pax

**GENUS** *Maerua* **FAMILY** Capparaceae

**COMMON NAMES** Rough-skinned bush-cherry

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Fruit

The fruit are eaten as a snack.

## DESCRIPTION

A scrambling shrub. It has many stems. It can be a climber. The branches arch over. It loses many leaves during the year. It can grow up to 15 m high. The leaves are alternate and grey-green. They have 1-3 leaflets. These are narrowly oval. The flowers are clustered near the ends of the branches. They are white. The petals are small and there is a half round head of long stamens. The fruit is oval and green to orange when ripe. Subspecies crustata has rough skin on the fruit and subspecies juncea has smooth fruit.

## HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in places with a marked dry season. It can tolerate frost. It grows in areas with an annual rainfall between 50-1,400 mm. It grows in sandy and stony soils. It grows between 5-1,370 m above sea level. It is drought tolerant. It can grow in arid places.

## PRODUCTION

### Cultivation

It can be cut back and will re-grow.

## REFERENCES


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**ONLINE FACT SHEET** https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/a83f2dbb-1266-45fc-a8ce-f80604bc2056