PLANT FACT SHEET

Grewia pachycalyx K. Schum.

GENUS *Grewia* **FAMILY** Malvaceae

COMMON NAMES Large-flowered white cross-berry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub which tends to scramble. It has many stems. It can be a small tree 6 m high. The bark is grey-brow. The branches often droop. The leaves are oblong to sword shaped. They are 6-19 cm long by 2.5-9 cm wide. They are bright green on both surfaces. The edges of the leaf are toothed or scalloped. The leaf stalk is 8 mm long and hairy. They flowers are white. They are 3-4 cm across. They occur in groups of 3-9 opposite the leaves. The sepals curve backwards except for the tip. The petals are frilled and crinkled. The fruit have 4 lobes. Each lobe is 10 mm across. They are shiny orange-red when mature.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows at low altitude often along river valleys. It grows in hot arid areas. It grows in well drained sandy soils. It grows between 800-1,450 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places.

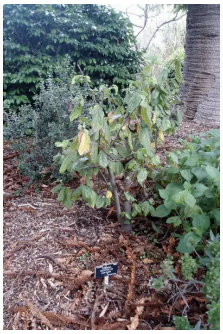
NOTES

There are about 200 Grewia species. They are mostly tropical. The fruit of most may be edible. These were in the Sparrmanniaceae and the Tiliaceae.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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