PLANT FACT SHEET

Capparis fascicularis DC.

GENUS *Capparis* **FAMILY** Capparaceae

COMMON NAMES Zigzag caper-bush

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Leaves, Vegetable

Immature fruit are used as pickles and chutney.
The fruit are also eaten as a snack.
The leaves are used as a spice.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or small tree. It grows to 7 m high. It can be scrambling. The stem has small hooks. The leaves are narrow and oval. They are 4 cm long by 1.5 cm wide. The flowers are in compact clusters at the ends of branches and in the axils of leaves. The fruit are round and 1.2 cm across. They are purple-black when ripe.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in savannah woodland. It grows between 600-1,200 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places.

NOTES

There are about 250 Capparis species. There are about 50 Capparis species in tropical America.

REFERENCES

Burkill, H. M., 1985, The useful plants of west tropical Africa, Vol. 1. Kew.

Codjia, J. T. C., et al, 2003, Diversity and local valorisation of vegetal edible products in Benin. Cahiers Agricultures 12:1-12 (As Capparis rothii)

Dalziel, 1937,

Glover et al, 1966b,

Grivetti, L. E., 1980, Agricultural development: present and potential role of edible wild plants. Part 2: Sub-Saharan Africa, Report to the Department of State Agency for International Development. p 44

Grubben, G. J. H. and Denton, O. A. (eds), 2004, Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 2. Vegetables. PROTA, Wageningen, Netherlands. p 560

Hahn, K., et al, 2018, The use of wild plants for food: a national scale analysis for Burkina Faso (West Africa). FVSS FoodPlants Supplement

Jardin, C., 1970, List of Foods Used In Africa, FAO Nutrition Information Document Series No 2.p 124

Lulekal, E., et al, 2011, Wild edible plants in Ethiopia: a review on their potential to combat food insecurity. Afrika Focus - Vol. 24, No 2. pp 71-121

Mutie, F. M., et al, 2023, Important Medicinal and Food Taxa (Orders and Families) in Kenya, Based on Three Quantitative Approaches. Plants 2023, 12, 1145

Ojelel, S., et al, 2019, Wild edible plants used by communities in and around selected forest reserves of Teso-Karamoja region, Uganda. Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine (2019) 15:3

Peters, C. R., O'Brien, E. M., and Drummond, R.B., 1992, Edible Wild plants of Sub-saharan Africa. Kew. p 76

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (1999). Survey of Economic Plants for Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (SEPASAL) database. Published on the Internet; http://www.rbgkew.org.uk/ceb/sepasal/internet [Accessed 7th April 2011]

Ruiters-Welcome, A. K., 2019, Food plants of southern Africa. Ph.D. thesis. Univ. of Johannesburg p 41

Swaziland's Flora Database http://www.sntc.org.sz/flora

Vivien, J., & Faure, J. J., 1996, Fruitiers Sauvages d'Afrique. Especes du Cameroun. CTA p 100

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

Wondimu, T., et al, 2006, Ethnobotanical Study or Food Plants around 'Dheeraa' Town, ARSI, Ethiopia. Ethiop. J. Sci. 29(1): 71-80.

World Checklist of Useful Plant Species 2020. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

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/b24e6046-26a8-47cb-adc5-1b2664ce5e25