PLANT FACT SHEET

Maclura africana (Bureau) Corner

GENUS *Maclura* **FAMILY** Moraceae

COMMON NAMES African asage-orange, Thorny mulberry

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruiting heads, Fruit

The fruit are eaten as a snack.

DESCRIPTION

A spiny shrub. It can be a scrambler or a small tree up to 8 m high. The bark is creamy-brown. The side branches have spines at the end. The leaves are simple and alternate. They are oval and 3-9 cm long by 2-4 cm wide. They are dark green. They can taper towards each end. The edges roll slightly under. The male and female flowers occur on separate trees. They are white and have a sweet scent. They occur in small dense heads. These are about 1.5 cm across. The fruit is a head of small nutlets. They have a soft edible pulp.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in hot, dry, low-lying areas or coastal sand dunes.

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/b5c3cb50-b38b-4c68-b57a-0b15f5c1b515