PLANT FACT SHEET

Combretum molle R. Br. ex G. Don

GENUS *Combretum* **FAMILY** Combretaceae

COMMON NAMES Velvet bush willow

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Root, Gum, Bark - tea

The root is used for tea and in soup. They are cut up and cooked as a vegetable.
The plant is also used flavour beer and drinks.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or small tree. It grows 10 m high. The leaves are oval and 11 cm long by 7 cm wide. They are rusty velvet on both surfaces. The flowers often appear before the leaves. The flowers can occur singly or in clusters in the axils of the leaves. The fruit are 2 cm long and 1.5 cm wide. They have gland dots over them.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows on dry stony ground. It grows in savannah and woodland. In grows up to 2,300 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be cut back and will re-grow.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It grows quickly. It flowers and fruits April/May in Ethiopia.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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