PLANT FACT SHEET

Senegalia fleckii (Schinz) Boatwr.

GENUS *Senegalia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Blade thorn, Sand-veld acacia

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Gum, Vegetable

The gum is eaten as a snack.

DESCRIPTION

It is a shrub. Often is has several stems. It loses many of its leaves during the year. It grows up to about 2.5-6 m tall. The bark on the trunk can peel off in papery pieces. The thorns are hooked and sharp. They occur in pairs. The thorns have a swollen base. The leaves are 5-8 cm long. They have flat raised gland at the base of the leaf. The leaves have 6-14 pairs of side branches and about 10-30 pairs of leaflets. These are hairy. The leaflets are fine and grey. The flowers are pale yellow and in spikes about 8 cm long. The pods are flat and papery. They are grey or brown and about 9 cm long. They have many glands which look like red spots.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It often forms thickets on sandy soil. It grows on sand dunes. It is drought resistant. It can tolerate some frost. It grows between 400-1,450 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds. Seeds germinate fairly easily in 5-15 days.

NOTES

There are about 1,350 Acacia species. Over 1,000 occur in Australia. Also as Mimosaceae.

REFERENCES

Fowler, D. G., 2007, Zambian Plants: Their Vernacular Names and Uses. Kew. p 32 (As Acacia fleckii)

Fox, F. W. & Young, M. E. N., 1982, Food from the Veld. Delta Books. p 201 (As Acacia fleckii)

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 79 (As Acacia fleckii)

Grubben, G. J. H. and Denton, O. A. (eds), 2004, Plant Resources of Tropical Africa 2. Vegetables. PROTA, Wageningen, Netherlands. p 559 (As Acacia fleckii)

http://aflora.africa.kyoto-u.ac.jp (As Acacia fleckii)

ILDIS Legumes of the World http:www;ildis.org/Legume/Web (As Acacia fleckii)

Lee, 1979, (As Acacia fleckii)

Mannheimer, C. A. & Curtis. B.A. (eds), 2009, Le Roux and Muller's Field Guide to the Trees and Shrubs of Namibia. Windhoek: Macmillan Education Namibia. p 94 (As Acacia fleckii)

Mem. Herb. Boissier 1:108. 1900 (As Acacia fleckii)

Palgrave, K.C., 1996, Trees of Southern Africa. Struik Publishers. p 237 (As Acacia fleckii)

Palmer, E and Pitman, N., 1972, Trees of Southern Africa. Vol. 2. A.A. Balkema, Cape Town p 758 (As Acacia fleckii)

Peters, C. R., O'Brien, E. M., and Drummond, R.B., 1992, Edible Wild plants of Sub-saharan Africa. Kew. p 126 (As Acacia fleckii)

Roodt, V., 1998, Trees & Shrubs of the Okavango Delta. Medicinal Uses and Nutritional value. The Shell Field Guide Series: Part 1. Shell Botswana. p 161 (As Acacia fleckii)

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 26th April 2011] (As Acacia fleckii)

Ruiters-Welcome, A. K., 2019, Food plants of southern Africa. Ph.D. thesis. Univ. of Johannesburg p 55 (As Acacia fleckii)

Tanaka, 1980, (As Acacia fleckii)

van Wyk, Ben-Erik, 2019, The diversity and multiple uses of southern African legumes. Australian Systematic Botany, 2019, 32, 519–546

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 (As Acacia fleckii)

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/c36e6a68-4f59-48e2-8821-8fb11712ad72