PLANT FACT SHEET

Prosopis glandulosa Torrey

GENUS *Prosopis* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Glandular mesquite, Honey Mesquite, Honeypod

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Honey, Fruit, flower - nectar, Vegetable

The seeds and pods have been used to prepare meal and cakes.
The green pods contain a sweet pulp and can be cooked and eaten or made into jelly.
The dried pods are ground into meal and used in breads, cakes, muffins and pancakes.
The plant is the source of a gum.
The nectar of the flower can be sucked.

DESCRIPTION

A large spiny shrub. It grows 6-9 m high and spreads 8 m wide. It loses its leaves during the year. The trunk can be 30 cm across. The stems are spiny. The leaves are twice divided. They are 7.5-20 cm long. There are a pair of side axes each with 7-17 pairs of stalkless leaflets. These are 1-3.2 cm long. They are yellow-green and narrowly oblong. The flowers are yellow and fluffy. The flowers are 6 mm long and in clusters 5-7.5 cm long. They are rich in nectar. The fruit are pale yellow narrow pods. They are 9-20 cm long and 10 mm wide. These narrow pods end on a long narrow point. They are slightly flattened and have a wavy edge between the seeds. The pulp is sweet. There are 12-20 seeds.

HABITAT

It is a warm temperate plant. It grows on sandy plains and sandhills. It can grow in desert grassland. It can grow on slightly salty soils. In the SE region of the USA it grows to 1700 m altitude. It can grow in arid places. It suits hardiness zones 8-11.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seeds.

NOTES

Also as Mimosaceae.
It can be invasive when introduced to new regions.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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