PLANT FACT SHEET

Ehretia alba Retief & A. E. van Wyk

GENUS *Ehretia* **FAMILY** Boraginaceae

COMMON NAMES White puzzle-bush

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit are eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub. It grows 4 m high. It loses many leaves during the year. The branches are rigid and spread in all directions. The bark is smooth, dark grey and crumbly. The leaves are simple and usually clustered on short branches. The leaves are narrowly oval and 103 cm long by 1 cm wide. They taper to the base. The flowers are in single heads on short side branches. They are white or pink when older. The fruit is an orange berry. It is round and 4-6 mm across.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical plant. It grows in hot and arid places with a marked dry season. The dry season can be 6-11 months. It grows in areas with an annual rainfall of 1,000-1,800 mm. It can grow in arid places.

REFERENCES

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 424

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 4th April 2011]

Ruiters-Welcome, A. K., 2019, Food plants of southern Africa. Ph.D. thesis. Univ. of Johannesburg p 38

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

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/c65b8b03-410f-4beb-a5c0-793b97b8263b