PLANT FACT SHEET

Vachellia tortilis subsp. raddiana (Savi) Kyal. & Boatwr.

GENUS *Vachellia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Umbrella thorn

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Bark, Fruit, Seeds, Gum

The bark is eaten as a famine food.

DESCRIPTION

A tree. It is spiny. It grows 12-21 m tall. It has a spreading umbrella shaped crown. It loses its leaves during the year. The leaves are alternate and twice divided. They are 2.5-4.5 cm long with 2-10 pairs of small leaflets with 6-20 pairs of small leaflets on each one. These leaflets are 2-4 cm long and hairy. The fruit pods are coiled into a spiral. The seeds are brown and 4-7 mm across.

HABITAT

It is a Mediterranean plant. It grows in alkaline soils. It is often in stony and sandy soils. It can grow in arid places. It grows in the Sahara.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It can be cut back and will re-grow.

Harvesting and Seed Production

It grows quickly.

NOTES

Also as Mimosaceae.

REFERENCES

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/d3df1dae-a2ba-4ff5-b5fd-7af9fdbe9b2a