PLANT FACT SHEET

Vachellia gummifera (Willd.) Kyal. & Boatwr.

GENUS *Vachellia* **FAMILY** Fabaceae

COMMON NAMES Barbary-Gum, Morocco-gum

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Gum

The gum is sweet and partly soluble in water.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or tree. It has many branches. It grows 5-6 m tall. The branches have spines 10-15 mm long and in pairs. The leaves are compound. They have 1-3 pairs of pinnae each with 6-8 pairs of leaflets. These are 6-7 mm long. The flowers are pale yellow and in rounded groups in the axils of leaves. The fruit are pods 15 cm long. These are slightly flattened and curved. They are contracted between the seeds.

HABITAT

It is a Mediterranean climate plant. It is often on shallow soils.

PRODUCTION

Harvesting and Seed Production

It grows slowly.

NOTES

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

REFERENCES

Hedrick, U.P., 1919, (Ed.), Sturtevant's edible plants of the world. p 19 (As Acacia gummifera)

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Usher, G., 1974, A Dictionary of Plants Used by Man. Constable. p 11

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/d96d31d5-97cb-4c18-a0ea-a0e2ef645f09