PLANT FACT SHEET

Ziziphus rugosa Lam.

GENUS *Ziziphus* **FAMILY** Rhamnaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The mealy pulp of the ripe fruit is eaten raw. They are also used for curries.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or small tree. It grows to about 5 m high. It can be a straggler and loses it leaves during the year. The bark is dark grey. It is deeply cracked into thick rectangular scales. The leaves have stalks. They are 5.5-13 cm long by 3-11 cm wide. They are almost round or oval with teeth. They are dark green above. They are thick grey or rusty colour and like felt underneath. They are obliquely rounded at the base. The flowers are yellowish. The occur in long panicles at the ends of branches or in the axils or leaves. The fruit is fleshy with a hard covering over the seed. The fruit is round or pear shaped. It is 5-8 mm across and white when ripe.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. In Nepal plants grow to 1200 m altitude. It grows on the Deccan in India. In Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed or root suckers.

Harvesting and Seed Production

In southern India plants fruit is April to May.

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