PLANT FACT SHEET

Celtis toka (Forssk.) Hepper & Wood

GENUS *Celtis* **FAMILY** Cannabaceae

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Leaves - flavouring, Vegetable

The fruit are eaten as a dessert fruit.
The leaves are used as a flavouring. They are added to salads and soups.

DESCRIPTION

It is a shrub or small tree. It grows 18-25 m tall. It often has buttresses. The bark is light grey and smooth. The crown can be long or spreading. It develops branches low down on the trunk. The trunk can be 1-1.5 m across. The leaves are oval and 4-8 cm long by 2.5-4.5 cm wide. They taper to the tip and are slightly unequal at the base. Young leaves can have teeth along the edge. The fruit is fleshy and a flattened round shape. They are 1 cm long. They are yellow to orange and hairy.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in dry soils. It grows in areas with an annual rainfall below 400 mm. It can grow in arid places. It also grows in dry forest near rivers. It grows from 350-1,200 m above sea level.

NOTES

Also put in the family Ulmaceae.

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