PLANT FACT SHEET

Commiphora edulis (Klotzsch) Engl.

GENUS *Commiphora* **FAMILY** Burseraceae

COMMON NAMES Rough-leaved corkwood

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Roots - drink, Seed - aril

The fruit is edible but not attractive.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or small tree. It has several stems. They are usually twined. It grows 2-10 m high. The bark is light grey. It loses its leaves during the year. The leaves are compound and have leaflets along the stalk with a leaflet at the end. The leaflets are narrowly oval and 3-7 cm long by 2-3 cm wide. Male and female flowers are on separate plants. The flowers are yellow. The fruit are almost round and 2.4 cm long by 2.3 cm wide. There are 3 subspecies.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It grows in hot arid places where there is a marked dry season. It grows in areas with an annual rainfall or 500-800 mm. It grows in well-drained sandy soils. In southern Africa it grows between 450-1,500 m above sea level. It can grow in arid places.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds. It can be grown from large cuttings. It can be cut back and it will re-grow.

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