PLANT FACT SHEET

Grewia sulcata Mast.

GENUS *Grewia* **FAMILY** Malvaceae

COMMON NAMES Stellar cross-berry, Stellar raisin

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit - drink

A weak, tea-like drink is made from the fruit.
The fruit are also eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub. It has many stems. It grows 2-3 m high. The bark is reddish-brown. The leaves are oblong and 2-7 cm long by 1.5-4.5 cm wide. They are dull green above and slightly paler underneath. There are scattered hairs on both surfaces. The edges of the leaves are toothed or scalloped. The flowers are white or cream and 3.5 cm across. They occur in groups of 3 in the axils of leaves and at the ends of branches. The flower stalks have long creamy hairs. The fruit are deeply divided into 4 lobes. Each lobe is 8 mm across.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows at low altitudes. It grows on coastal sand dunes and on sandy banks of rivers. In Zimbabwe it grows up to 700 m above sea level.

NOTES

There are about 200 Grewia species. They are mostly tropical. The fruit of most may be edible. These were in the Sparrmanniaceae and the Tiliaceae.

REFERENCES

D. Oliver, Fl. trop. afr. 1:252. 1868

Palgrave, K.C., 1996, Trees of Southern Africa. Struik Publishers. p 580

Ruiters-Welcome, A. K., 2019, Food plants of southern Africa. Ph.D. thesis. Univ. of Johannesburg p 76

Schmidt, E., Lotter, M., & McCleland, W., 2007, Trees and shrubs of Mpumalanga and Kruger National Park. Jacana Media p 408

Welcome, A. K. & Van Wyk, B.-E., 2019, An inventory and analysis of the food plants of southern Africa. South African Journal of Botany 122 (2019) 136–179

World Checklist of Useful Plant Species 2020. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/ea3eb78e-2d2e-4f0f-b1ee-22d02e464d31