



PLANT FACT SHEET

Terminalia canescens (DC.) Radlk. ex Durand

GENUS *Terminalia* **FAMILY** Combretaceae

COMMON NAMES Australian almond, Winged nut tree

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Gum

The honey coloured gum is edible. It is often warmed before eating.

DESCRIPTION

A shrub or small tree. It often loses many of its leaves during the year. It grows up to 6-10 m tall. The bark is flaky and greyish brown. Branches often hang downwards. The young leaves, fruit and stems can have a silky covering. The leaves are arranged in spirals and are silvery. The leaves are leathery and sword shaped. They are 1-7 cm long by 0.3-3 cm wide. The flowers occur in a spike up to 8 cm long and are cream to green. The fruit is a nut. It is oval and with a distinct wing around the body. The nut can be 0.5-3.5 cm long and 0.3-1.7 cm wide. The wing can be 0.5 cm wide. It can have fine hairs and a bloom which will rub off.

HABITAT

It is a tropical and subtropical plant. It occurs naturally in northern Australia. The tree is sensitive to fire. It grows on hard red, stony or sandy soils. It is often along watercourses.

PRODUCTION

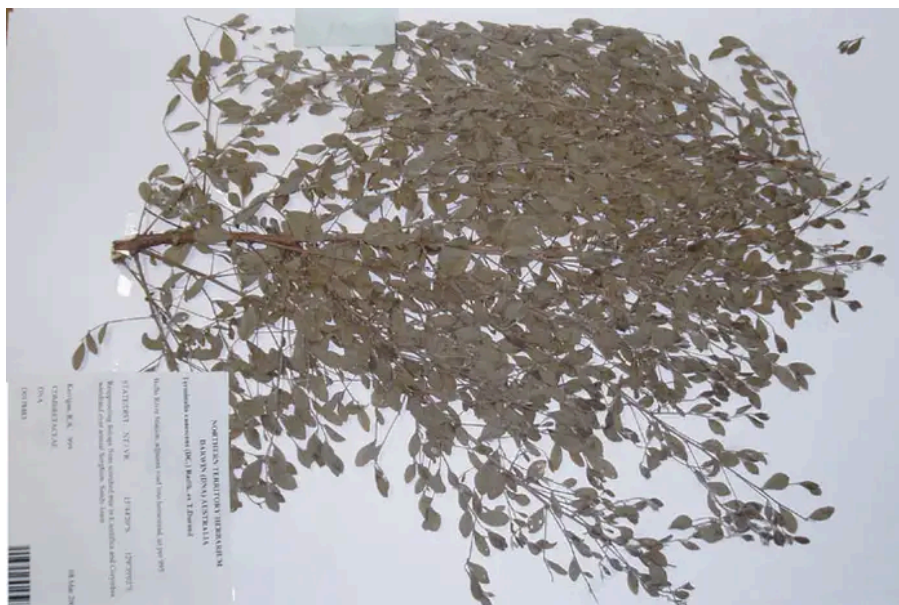
Harvesting and Seed Production

The tree flowers January to June and fruits from April to August.

NOTES

There are about 200-250 *Terminalia* species. They are tropical.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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