



PLANT FACT SHEET

Rhoicissus tomentosa (Lam.) Wild. & R. B. Drummond

GENUS *Rhoicissus* FAMILY Vitaceae

COMMON NAMES Simple-leaved grape, Cape grape

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

The fruit can be eaten raw.

They can be used for jams or jellies.

DESCRIPTION

A woody climber. It can climb 20 m to the tops of trees. It can also be a small bush 3-7 m tall. The bark is grey. The young branches are covered with thick rusty hairs. The leaves are simple and large. They are almost round. They can be 20 cm long by 16 cm wide. The veins are easy to see. 3 veins extend from the base. The upper surface is dark green and the underneath has rusty hairs. The base is deeply lobed. The edges of the leaf are wavy and often with shallow teeth. The fruit is almost round and 2 cm across. It is fleshy. They are red and become purplish-black when mature. They look like grapes. The fruit are edible.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows along the banks of rivers climbing over forest trees. It can grow in arid places. In Zimbabwe it grows between 780-1,900 m above sea level.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

They can be grown from seeds and probably cuttings.

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