Acacia asak Mimosoideae

Indigenous

Af:SihigtoAr:AsakBl:Sh.ela.waHd:TekerKm:KaraNr:KarSh:SuhugaTr:HaqTg:Suhug

Ecology: This tree is confined to the Sudan, Somalia, Arabia and Ethiopia.

In Eritrea, it is commonly found in the eastern and western lowlands, e.g. on the Buri Peninsula, around Zula, Sebarguma, Solomuna, Hidai Valley, Seber, Mai-lam and Barentu, 350-1,600 m. Usually associated with *Terminalia brownii* and *Boscia angustifo*-

lia.

Uses: Firewood, charcoal, timber (construction), fodder (camel

browse), bee forage, medicine (smoking the bark).

Description: A tree or shrub up to 10 m. BARK: On young stems yellow and

peeling, on older stems dark grey and fissured. THORNS: Variable, short, straight or recurved, single, in threes, the central thorn hooked. LEAVES: Compound, with **3-6 widely spaced pairs of pinnae**, on a stalk to 5 cm, leaflets grey-green with rounded tips. FLOWERS: White-pale yellow on spikes to 11 cm. FRUIT: Straight flat pods, brown-purple and smooth to 12 cm

long, breaking open.

Propagation: Does well from seedlings. Direct seeding on moist sites is

possible.

Seed: No. of seeds per kg: 5,000-6,000. **treatment:** Soak in cold water for 24 hours.

storage: Can be stored for a long period.

Management: Pollarding, coppicing

Remarks:

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