

Indigenous

Tg: *Hirmi-tel*

Tr: *Leisham*

Ecology: A small tree of bushland and evergreen scrub, locally dominant on eroded bushland, granite slopes and even red clay. There is a single species found only in Arabia and north-east Africa. It grows in the central highlands of Eritrea, e.g. in Semenawi-bahri (Anagule, Maaldi), Debubawi-bahri (Seled, Adi-roso) and Roromensa, 1,700-2,200 m, often in association with *Olea africana*, *Rhus natalensis*, *Rhus abyssinica* and *Euclea schimperi*.

Uses: **Firewood**, charcoal, poles (construction), fence posts.

Description: A shrub or a small tree 3-10 m tall, much branched and rather resembling an olive tree; **branches more or less drooping or arched. BARK: Pale and smooth when young**, grey and rough on older trees. **LEAVES: Oblong to long oval, to 6 cm**, with a short tip, **shiny above** but dense **curly white hairs below**. **FLOWERS:** Male and female flowers separate. Male flowers **densely rust-brown, hairy in stalkless heads**, female similar but a bit larger. **FRUIT:** A **dry compressed** fruit, 1 cm long with the **bright green persistent membraneous calyx 1-2 cm around it**, on a stalk 1-2 cm long.

Propagation: Seedlings, wildings.

Seed:

treatment:

storage:

Management:

Remarks: This plant is poisonous to goats.

