

Indigenous

Bl: Tesesa

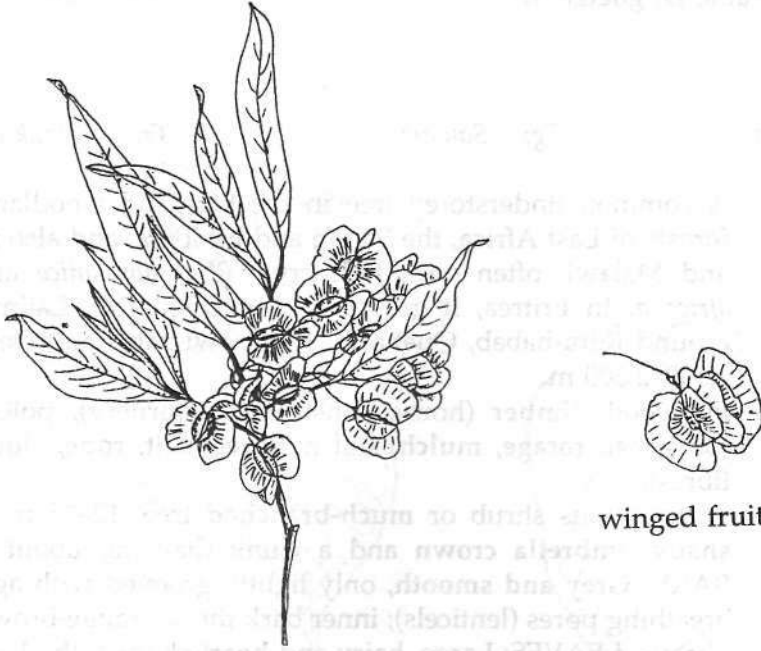
Eng: Hop bush

Sh: Kedkida

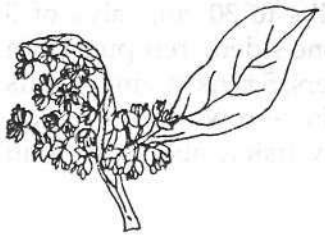
Tg: Tahses

TV: Tases

- Ecology:** The natural range of this tree is very wide, including areas outside Africa. In Eritrea, it grows in a variety of habitats from riverine forest to rocky soils or arid marginal areas. It is a pioneering species in secondary forests, dominant from 750 to 2,500 m throughout the country.
- Uses:** **Firewood**, charcoal, poles, tool handles, tooth brush (young branches), **broom** (young branches), medicine (leaves, roots), **smoke bath** (like sauna), bee forage, **soil conservation**, **windbreak**, **live fence**, roofing material.
- Description:** A thin-stemmed shrub or small evergreen tree, 3-8 m with a light crown. All parts are smooth and resinous when young. **BARK:** Dark grey, grooved, peeling. Branchlets red and sticky. **LEAVES:** Simple, up to 13 cm long, tip pointed, thin, **narrow**, **stiffly erect**, tapering to a stalk; young leaves **light green, shiny and sticky**. **FLOWERS:** Green-yellow, male and female separate, insignificant. **FRUIT:** Very many **distinctive capsules, each 2 cm across with 3 papery wings, sometimes inflated, green-red-pink**, appearing like "blossom", becoming light brown, small seeds inside.
- Propagation:** Seedlings, wildings, direct sowing.
- Seed:** Germination rate 30-70 %. No. of seeds per kg: $\pm 100,000$.
- treatment:** Not necessary.
- storage:** Seed can be stored for up to a year.
- Management:** Fast growing. Little or no management required once established. Live fences should be trimmed.
- Remarks:** The species is not browsed, which makes it easy to establish. The wood is hard and heavy. A good live fence for dry areas, susceptible to fire but regenerating rapidly after burning. It is especially useful as a tree to reclaim degraded land.



winged fruit



male flower

