

Indigenous

Af: *Huda*
Hd: *Tom*
Sh: *Hudato*

Ar: *Kadar*
Km: *Gulumfa*
Tg: *Serneg*

Bl: *Sahtera*
Nr: *Shaghe*
Tr: *Huda*

Ecology: A small tree of very dry zones into semi-desert with low rainfall and on sandbanks from Morocco, the Sahel and Arabia south to Namibia. In Eritrea, it grows in the central and northern highlands, eastern and western escarpments as well as in the western and eastern lowlands, 80-1,800 m in dry Acacia bushland or grassland with scattered bushes. It is frequent around such places as Akrur, Erafale, Mai-atal, Ghahtelai, Solomuna, Sheib, Afabet, Akurdet, Jengeren, lower Gash and on the Ala plains.

Uses: Agricultural tools, **food (fruit), fodder** (leaves), fibre (bark), **walking sticks, bows.**

Description: A shrub or small tree 1-3 m, rarely to 5 m. BARK: Dark-grey, dotted with white breathing pores (lenticels) on young stems. LEAVES: **Rounded and small, only 1.5-4.0 cm** on a slender stalk, the **edge round-toothed**, the surface hairy, smooth and sandpapery. FLOWERS: **White and solitary, often opposite leaves**, shortly stalked, the **outer green-yellow sepals 9-20 mm, the inner white petals smaller.** FRUIT: **Smooth and red when ripe, fleshy, edible**, with 1-4 lobes, 5-10 mm across.

Propagation: Seedlings, direct sowing.

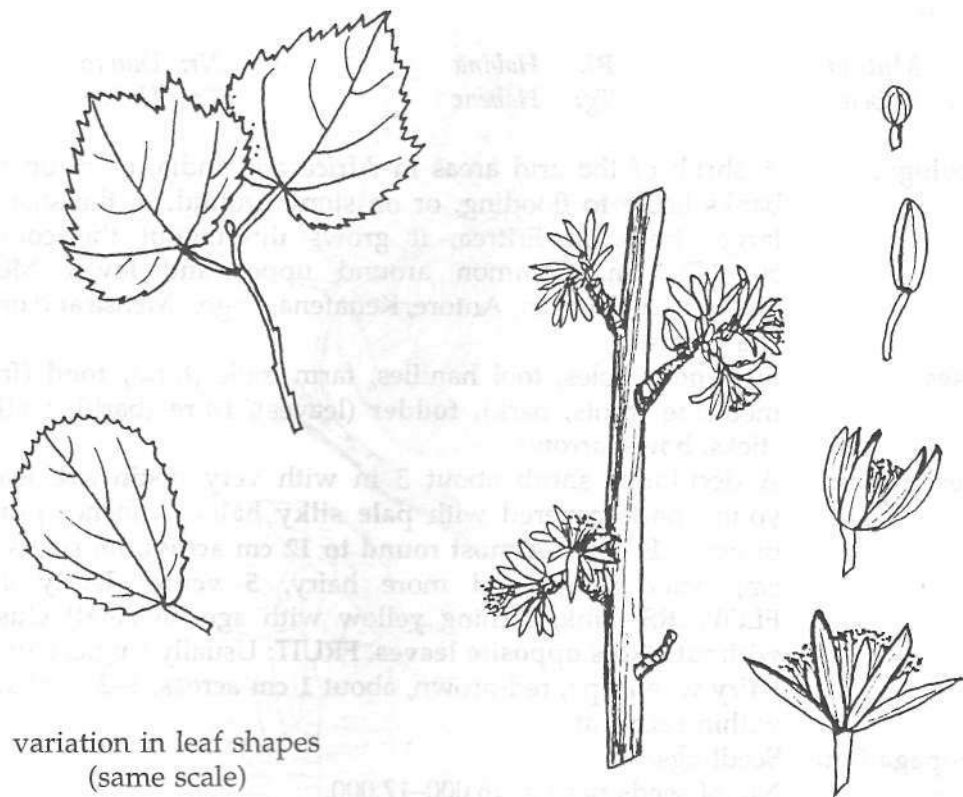
Seed: About 21,000 seeds per kg.

treatment: Soak in cold water for 12 hours.

storage: Can be stored for a year in an airtight container.

Management:

Remarks: Macerated bark is said to help delivery of the placenta in cows. Bark fibres have been used for binding in huts. The leaves are intensively browsed by camels, sheep and goats even when dry and fallen.



variation in leaf shapes
(same scale)

