Indigenous

Tg: Murkus-tebi Tr: Mewets-dinghil

Ecology: A small tree with a wide range in east, central and southern

Africa but characteristic of woodland, forest edges and rocky grassland. In Eritrea, it grows in the central and northern highlands, e.g. around Quahaito, Rora-habab and on Mt. Bizen, 1,800-2,500 m. Mostly found in wooded ravines, on hillsides and

on rocky outcrops.

Seed: Medicine (inhalation of smoke), fodder.

Description: A straggling open-branched shrub with slender stems or a tree

1-7 m. BARK: Smooth, yellow-green, waxy, becoming grey-dark brown, often peeling off in papery strips. LEAVES: Crowded at the end of branches, compound and variable with 1, 2 or 3 pairs of leaflets plus one at the tip, widely spaced, long oval, 3-11 cm, tapering to a point, the edge with conspicuous teeth ending in hair-like points, leaflets stalked, main stalks to 10 cm. FLOWERS: Small, yellow-green in typical umbel heads about 8 cm across, with stalks all growing from one point. Each flower has stamens longer than the 5 tiny petals. FRUIT: In large untidy clusters, each one dry, cream-brown, heart-shaped with 3 papery wings, 6 mm across. Fruit remain a long time on the

tree.

Propagation: Seedlings.

Seed:

treatment: storage: Management:

Remarks: If smoke from the burning wood is inhaled it is said to relieve

headache and breathlessness. The wood is soft and brittle. All parts smell strongly, like carrots, especially the aromatic leaves.

