

# ***Rhus vulgaris***

Anacardiaceae

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## **Indigenous**

**Am:** *Qmmo, Yeregna kolo*

**Or:** *Tatesa, Dabobessa*

## **Ecology**

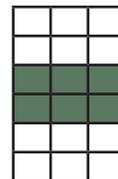
Its range extends from Cameroon in West Africa to Ethiopia and south to Mozambique, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe. In Ethiopia, it is a very common shrub at forest edges and in woodlands in Dry, Moist and Wet Weyna Dega and Dega agroclimatic zone in most regions, 1,500–2,800 m.

## **Uses**

Firewood, farm tools, food (fruit), medicine (fruit decoction).

## **Description**

A shrub or small tree that occasionally reaches 6 m. Branchlets brown, hairy. LEAVES: 3 leaflets, dull green, softly hairy, especially below, oval to rounded, usually 5 cm long, the tip either rounded, notched or sharp, the upper edges sometimes with large rounded teeth; leaf stalk to 4 cm, leaflets, branchlets and underside of leaflets are densely hairy; leaflet sizes very variable. FLOWERS: Small bunches on hairy branched sprays, to 15 cm, yellow-green, with bright yellow stamens. FRUIT: Thin, yellow-red, flat and round discs, brownish-red when dry, only 3–5 mm across, edible.



## **Propagation**

Seedlings.

## **Seed**

**Treatment:**

**Storage:** Remains viable only about 3 months at room temperature.

## **Management**

Coppicing. Rather slow growing.

## **Remarks**

Fruits taste better when roasted. Shepherds in Ethiopia roast and eat them while out in the pastures.

