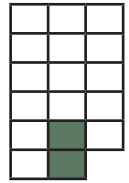


Ziziphus pubescens

Rhamnaceae



Indigenous

Agn: *Lero*

Mjr: *Oleme*

Nur: *Riak*

Ecology

Grows in Moist and Kolla Bereha, 300-1,400 m, annual rainfall 1,400-2,000 mm. The species is common in Gambella and in the Weyto valley around Jinka.

Use

Firewood, timber (general construction), tool handles, food (fruit), fodder (leaves).

Description

It is a huge tree to a height of 15 m and DBH (diameter at breast height) of up to 1.2 m or more. BARK: dark, scaly especially on branchlets, often no scale on young branches, peels off easily from branches. LEAVES: Tomentose (finely hairy), alternate, simple, pale green when young and dark green when old, four coarse leaf veins radiating from its base towards tip, base asymmetric, petiole 4 – 7mm, margin entire up to 6.5 cm in length and ~3.5 cm in width. FLOWER: Not conspicuous, flowers stocks short and many along the branchlets. FRUIT: Bean shaped, slightly bigger than beans, green when young and reddish if mature, few seeds per fruit.

Propagation

From seeds, seedlings and wildings

Seed

Treatment: Soak in cold water and macerate it when loose

Storage: Can store well in an air-tight container if fruit is not cracked.

Management

Pollarding, thinning

Remarks

Leaves are eaten by goats and cattle. Mainly women and children eat the fruits.

