

Ehretia amoena (E. stuhlmannii)

Boraginaceae

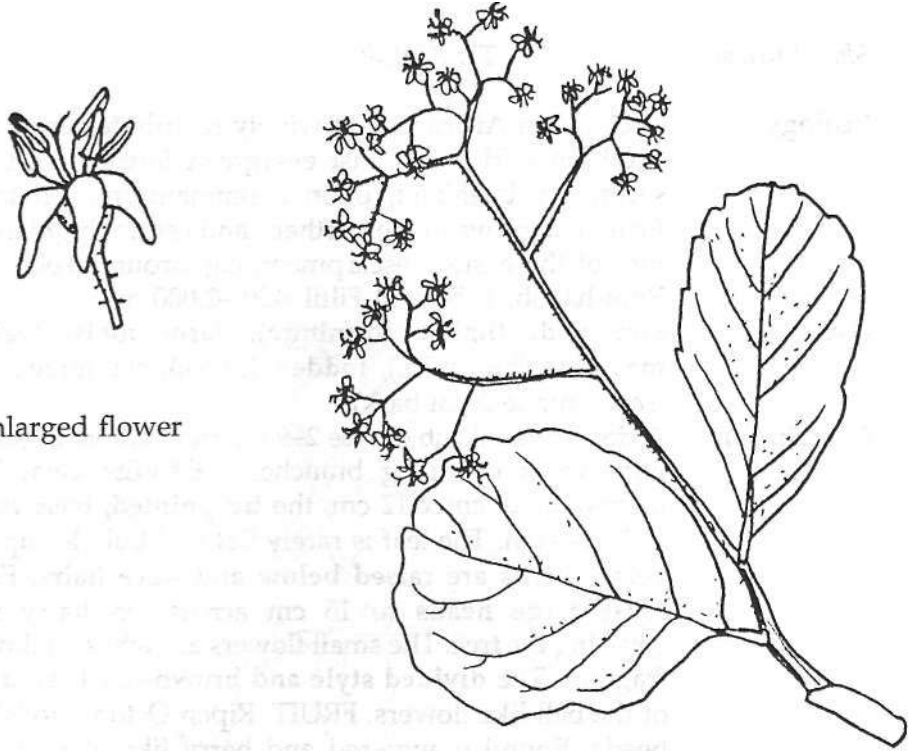
Indigenous

Eng: Sandpaper bush

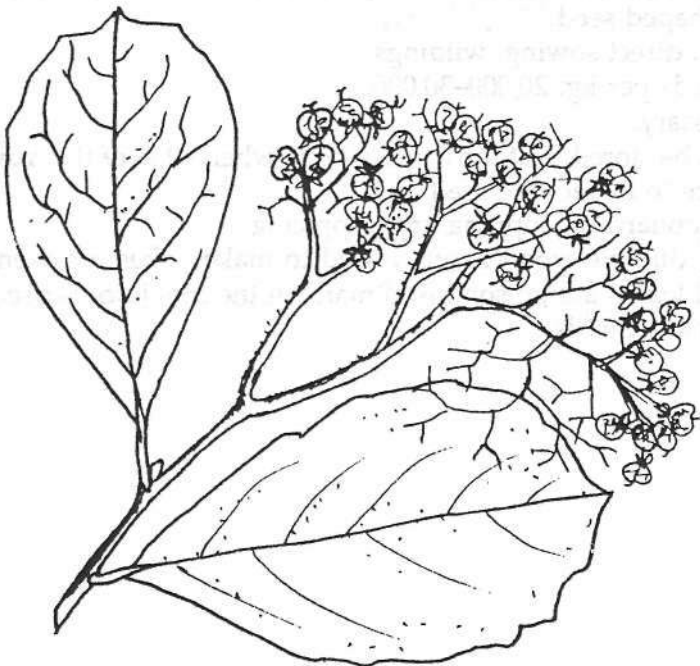
Tg: *Zabia wedi mahyo*

Tr: *Hal-awhi*

- Ecology:** A small tree well distributed in woodland and bushland from coastal Kenya to southern Africa, medium to low altitude, especially in hot areas. In Eritrea, it occurs in evergreen forest, usually on steep slopes and on river banks, and commonly in association with *Olea africana*, *Juniperus procera* and *Dodonaea angustifolia*, 1,000-2,000 m, e.g. around Nefasit, Dankur and Brikentiba.
- Uses:** Firewood, furniture, **farm implements, walking sticks, tool handles**, bee forage.
- Description:** A deciduous shrub or small tree 2-7 m. BARK: White-pale brown and smooth turning grey with shallow cracks. Smooth branches ash white. LEAVES: **Alternate**, oval but wider at the tip, almost rounded, 4-11 cm, dark green and **rough above, paler below with soft hairs** and clear veins, narrowed at the base to a short stalk, edge near tip usually with some rounded teeth. FLOWERS: **Showy and fragrant** just before or with new leaves, white (pale mauve-blue) in **loose terminal much-branched heads to 12 cm long**, each flower **bell-shaped, 1 cm with 5 pointed lobes** and bilobed central style. FRUIT: **Rounded and fleshy only 5-7 mm**, often numerous, **yellow turning red** or brown, containing seed.
- Propagation:** Direct sowing, wildings.
- Seed:**
- treatment:** Not necessary.
- storage:** Can be stored for a year at room temperature in air-tight containers.
- Management:** Pollarding, lopping.
- Remarks:** The hard wood has been used to make pestles.



enlarged flower



enlarged fruit