

# Tamarix senegalensis

DC.

Tamaricaceae

## + Synonyms

Common Name:

## General Information

Tamarix senegalensis is a profusely-branched shrub or small tree growing 2 - 3 metres tall.

The plant is sometimes harvested from the wild for local use as a food, medicine and source of wood.

## Known Hazards

None known

## Botanical References

*No Image.*




## Range

Northwest Africa - most commonly near the coast from Senegal north to Morocco.

## Habitat

Saline soil, sandy desert and sea-shore; dry savannah; wadis; often forming extensive, pure stands[328, 774]

## Properties

Edibility Rating	
Medicinal Rating	
Other Uses Rating	
Habit	Shrub
Height	2.50 m
Cultivation Status	Wild

## Cultivation Details

A plant of arid and semi-arid areas in the tropics and subtropics.

Requires a sunny position. Succeeds in very dry, sandy soils so long as there is ground water no more than 3 metres deep[774]. Plants can grow on soils of high salinity[774]. Judging by the plant's habitat, it should be very tolerant of maritime winds[K]. Established plants are very drought tolerant[774].

## Edible Uses

A manna is said to exude from the plant[332].

This following is a report for the closely related Tamarix gallica:-

The sap exudes from punctures in the stems made by small insects; it collects along the branches in small beads which crystallize and are sweet, aromatic and pleasant to taste[774]. The droplets melt away in the heat of the sun and so are usually collected before sunrise[774].

## Medicinal

The macerated fruit is a good remedy for colds[774].

Young shoots with leaves on are used to treat conjunctivitis[774].

## Other Uses

The twigs are used as chewsticks to maintain the health of the teeth and gums[332].

The wood is used for building traditional huts[332].

The wood is used for fuel[774].

## Propagation

Seed -  
Cuttings.

**Last update on 2014-09-18:** Now containing 9881 plants.



Useful Tropical Plants Database 2014 by [Ken Fern](#), web interface by [Ajna Fern](#) with help from [Richard Morris](#).

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