

Bridelia retusa

Botanical Name: *Bridelia retusa*

Common State: Kaji

Morphological Characters:

Bridelia retusa is identified by rigid leathery leaves with straight parallel lateral veins and strong spines on the bark of young stems. It is a drought hardy species, produces root-suckers and a good coppicer. Leaf-blade is elliptic-oblong to elliptic-oblongate, 10-20 x 4-10 cm, tip somewhat pointed, sometimes blunt, base is rounded or roundly wedge-shaped, margin entire or wavy, thinly leathery, lateral nerves 15-20 pairs. Flowers are arranged in axillary fascicles and also in fascicles on leafless branches appearing as spikes. The fascicles are either unisexual or bisexual; axes densely puberulous; bracts small, acute; flowers stalked. Fruit is globose, fleshy sweetish drupe, about the size of a pea, purple-black, seated on a hard enlarged calyx. 1 or 2 seeds with fairly thick bony shells.



Growing season and Type:

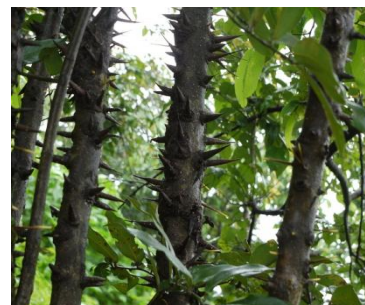
1. It will withstand moderate shade; the seedlings are somewhat frost-sensitive, but often recover after frosts.
2. It is moderately drought-resistant and is capable of surviving on dry shallow soil.
3. It coppices well and produces root suckers. The fruits are eaten by birds which spread the seed.
4. Flowering: May-August.



1



2



3

1. Fruit of *Bridelia retusa*
2. Leaf of *Bridelia retusa*
3. *Bridelia retusa* tree

Source: <http://www.efloraofgandhinagar.in/tree/bridelia-retusa>