

Prosopis cineraria

Botanical Name: *Prosopis cineraria*

Common Name: Khejri

Morphological Characters:

P. cineraria is a small tree, ranging in height from 3 – 5 m. Leaves are bipinnate, with 7 – 14 leaflets on each of 1 – 3 pinnae. Branches are thorned along the internodes. Flowers are small and creamy-yellow, and followed by seeds in pods. The tree is found in extremely arid conditions, with rainfall as low as 150mm annually; but is indicative of the presence of a deep water table. As with some other *Prosopis* spp., *P. cineraria* has demonstrated a tolerance of highly alkaline and saline environments. Khejri Tree is a small moderate sized evergreen thorny tree, with slender branches armed with conical thorns and with light bluish-green foliage. Leaves are double compound.



Growing Season and Type:

1. The flowers are small in size and yellow or creamy white in colour, appear from March to May after the new flush of leaves
2. The pods are formed soon thereafter and grow rapidly in size attaining full size in about two months time.
3. This tree is a legume and it improves soil fertility. It is an important constituent of the vegetation system
4. It is well adapted to the arid conditions and stands well to the adverse vagaries of climate and browsing by animals.



1

1) Flower image of *Prosopis cineraria*



2

2) Leaf image of *Prosopis cineraria*



3

3) Tree image of *Prosopis cineraria*

source: <http://www.eso.org.om/index/list2.php?categoryId=317&Extension=gif2>