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# Notes on Indigenous Trees and Shrubs of S. Rhodesia

## **Grewia obliqua** H. Weimarck Tiliaceae

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**Grewia obliqua** H. Weimarck  
Tiliaceae

**Common Name.**—Donkey berry. **Native Names.**—Mubura, munjiri, mutewa (Chis.); umhlampunzi, umtewa (Sind.).

**General Description.**—This is a common shrub and exceptionally a small tree up to 15 feet in height, but is usually much smaller than this. The branches are fairly flexible and the slender branches give the foliage a rather drooping appearance. The leaves are alternate, simple and slightly notched, with bases noticeably asymmetrical. The upper surfaces are green with few hairs, and the light-grey lower surfaces have a dense covering of fine, short hairs. The showy yellow flowers, which are to be seen between September and December, are in small clusters in the axils of leaves. The fruit is a small dark brown drupe. The bark is dark grey.

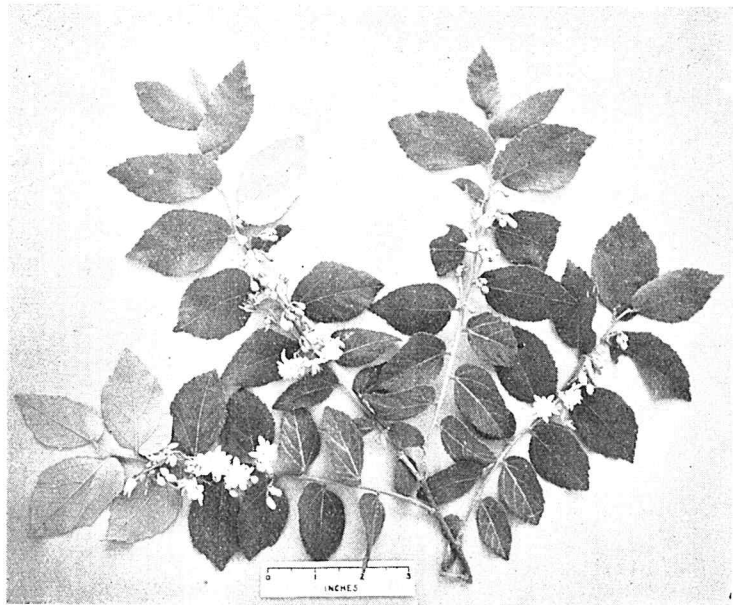
**Distribution.**—This shrub is fairly widely distributed in this Colony at medium elevations. It also occurs elsewhere in Central Africa.

**Uses.**—Little use is made of this shrub. Long, straight shoots are sometimes used for bows, and the fruits are edible. It is worth cultivating as an ornamental shrub, but is rather slow-growing.



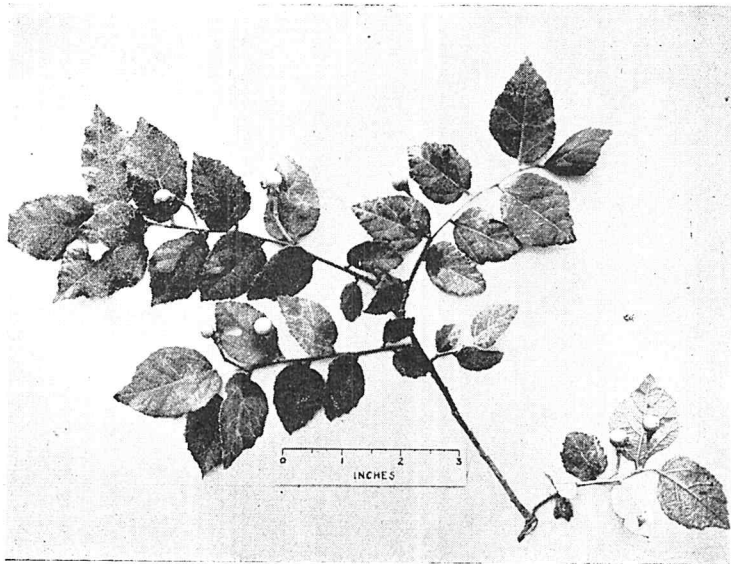
*Grewia obliqua.*  
Habit photo.

[Photo. by A. A. Pardy.]



*Grewia obliqua.*  
Leaves and flowers.

[Photo. by A. A. Pardy.]



*Grewia obliqua.*  
Leaves and fruit.

[Photo. by A. A. Pardy.]