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**Notes on Indigenous Trees and  
Shrubs of Southern Rhodesia**

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**Salix subserrata Willd.**

(Salicaceae)

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**Salix subserrata** Willd.

(Salicaceae)

**Common Name.**—Willow. **Native Names.**—Mupuma, musamangwena (Chis); umnyezana (Sind.).

**General Description.**—This is a shrub or small tree found along the banks of streams. The branchlets are of a reddish-brown colour and are brittle. The alternate, simple, stipulate leaves up to 3 inches, or even a little more in length, are narrow and taper at both ends. They are hairless and usually have slightly serrated margins. The under-surfaces of the leaves are whitish. The flowers are to be seen mainly during the rainy season. They are in male and female catkins, the former, about 3 inches in length, being the longer. The fruits are pale brown capsules, which when ripe release a copious supply of white, silky hairs with the seeds.

**Distribution.**—This willow is of quite common occurrence along the banks of streams in this colony. It occurs in adjoining territories and is found as far north as Uganda.

**Uses.**—No special uses are known. The wood is soft and light. The branches can be used for basket making. Plants can be raised from cuttings. Seeds do not retain their viability for long.



*Salix subserrata*

Leaves and flowers, male flowers being on central twig.

[Photo by: A. A. Pardy.]