



Flowering Trees

Salvadora persica L. of Salvadoraceae (Toothbrush Tree) is a large much-branched evergreen shrub or small tree (6–7 m) with soft whitish-yellow wood. Branches are numerous and drooping. The leaves are elliptic-lanceolate and somewhat fleshy. Flowers are in loose axillary and terminal much-branched inflorescence, small (about 0.4 cm) and greenish. Fruit is globose, fleshy, 5–10 mm in diameter, smooth, pink to scarlet when mature and single-seeded.

The fibrous branches of *S. persica* are used as toothbrush as they prevent tooth decay. The leaves are used as fodder and also eaten as salad. Fruits are used in Indian medicine.