

Sycamore Fig, Wild Fig, jumais, hammat

GENERAL

Origin	: Mediterranean, sub-tropical, tropical
Humidity	: semi-arid, semi-humid, extremely humid
Propagation	: sowing and pricking out, cuttings
Maintenance	: moderate

CONDITIONS

Urban climate	: resistant
Dessication	: resistant
Stagnant water	: resistant
Irrigation	: low
Salinity/ppm	: high (3500 ppm)
Hardiness	: -6°C

SHAPE

Type	: tree, shrub
Height	: 10 m
Spread	: 8 m
Foliage	: evergreen, semi-evergreen

FLOWER

Colour	: green
Size	: 0.5 cm
Period	: May - June

FRUIT

Type of fruit	: drupe(fleshy/ juicy)
Fruit size	: 2 cm - 3 cm
Toxicity	: edible, fruit

The Wild Fig (jumais or hammat in Arabic) is related to the cultivated fig tree and can be found in sheltered ravines and outcrops in many places in the ArArriyadh region. The tree grows rapidly to 5 metres in height with many branches from the bottom of the trunk. The dense foliage is comprised of simple, leathery, dark-green leaves up to 10 cm long. Small flowers appear from spring to early summer followed by tiny figs, which are edible and yellow, when ripe. The fruit also has medicinal properties. *F. pseudosycomorus* grows on rocky cliffsides, where it sends out long roots. Extremely drought-tolerant, it is also to be found at the foot of slopes in gravelly sands. The tree has a low tolerance to salinity. Propagation is by seed and cuttings. The Wild Fig is browsed by camels, so that many trees are stunted and cropped down to a low bush, where camels have reached them. *F. pseudo-sycomorus* has landscape value for planting on rocky slopes. It requires very little maintenance and the occasional deep watering in summer will improve the appearance of its foliage

