



Photo by Glenn Vargas of the Calif. Academy of Sciences

Common Name: Mesquite

Scientific Name: *Prosopis Glandulosa*

Kumeyaay Name: Aanall

Description: Mesquite can be a large shrub or a small tree. It has very hard wood. The leaves are green, flat, and skinny. They grow out of a branch with a matching leaf on either side. See photo. It has thin, sharp flowers that start to bloom in April.

The Kumeyaay ground the beans of this plant to use for flour to make cakes. Sometimes they would grind the bean pods into powder and put it in molds in the ground to harden. They used the hard wood for firewood or to make tools and baby cradles.

You can read about this plant in *Indians of the Oaks* on pages 24 and 25. Pi-on and Kwee-tahk collected mesquite wood to make baby cradles.

By: Drew