

Indigenous

- Ecology:** A tree of Central Africa extending east to Tanzania in lowland rain forest and riverine forest. A tree of mixed tropical rain forest, it is absent in climax forest. It occurs in all the forests throughout Uganda.
- Uses:** Firewood, charcoal, building poles, shade.
- Description:** A small to medium forest tree to 25 m, trunk fluted at the **base**. Terminal buds and young shoots have a resinous gum. **BARK:** brown and grooved, exuding white latex when cut. **LEAVES:** **clustered at the ends of branches**, leathery to 25 cm, usually **widest towards the tip which is often notched, dark green above, silver-grey-white below, 18-22 clear lateral veins each side**, stalk to 4 cm. **FLOWERS:** 2-4 together beside leaves, **dense brown hairy stalks**, small white-green flowers, styles over 1 cm. **FRUIT:** a rounded berry, white powdery and hairy, flesh containing about 9 seeds.
- Propagation:** Wildings and seedlings (sow seed in pots).
- Seed:** Contained in a berry which is easily collected. The seeds have to be squeezed out when the fruit is ripe and gradually dried.
- treatment:** not necessary.
- storage:** seeds are oily and should be sown soon after collection.
- Management:** Lopping, pollarding.
- Remarks:** Raise as a pure stand, intercropped with bananas or as shade trees. The shade is dense and the tree will grow well mixed with *Ficus natalensis* which has similarly dense shade.

