

Indigenous

Common names: **Lugishu:** Gulindi, kirindi **Sebei:** Bionwa.

Ecology: A tree of lower montane forest (together with Juniperus, Podocarpus, Aningeria, Olea, Albizia, Croton) and in riverine forests or forest edges, often persisting after forest clearing. Occurs in montane forests in Uganda in Kabale, Kisoro, Kasese, Bundibugyo, Kitgum, Moroto and Mbale Districts.

Uses: Firewood, charcoal, timber, farm tools, shade.

Description: A shrub or large forest tree to 25 m. **BARK:** **Smooth grey**, the mature trunk up to 1 m across, often **fluted**. **LEAVES:** compound with 3 leaflets on a stalk to 12 cm, edges slightly toothed and **hairs only in the vein axils below**, tip pointed. The **leaflets have short stalks** and the big central one 9-18 cm long. **FLOWERS:** yellow-white in **much-branched heads** to 20 cm. **FRUIT:** bunches of rounded soft red berries, about 7 mm across, very small seeds inside.

Propagation Seedlings, wildings.

Seed: Collect ripe fruit from the ground and allow to dry.

treatment: not necessary.

storage: can be stored for about a year if kept dry, cool and free from insects.

Management: Pollarding, coppicing. Slow growing.

Remarks: It may make the surroundings untidy as it continually sheds leaves and ripe fruit. Can be grown as pure stands or intercropped with food crops. The wood is used to make yokes for oxen. It is pale brown and easy to work but not durable.

