

Indigenous

Common names: **Rutoro:** Muhambulya.

Ecology: One of a fairly large genus in both tropical America, Africa and Madagascar. This species resembles Aningeria and may be found growing with it as well as Podocarpus and Ocotea in upland rain forests of East Africa. In Uganda it occurs in lower montane forests, e.g. in Kibale, Kasyoha-Kitomi, Kalinzu and in the Impenetrable (Bwindi) Forests. This species is recognized chiefly by its fruit.

Uses: Firewood, charcoal, timber, poles, food (fruit).

Description: A tall evergreen forest tree 30-40 m high, with a **straight slender bole** for about 16 m to a small or spreading crown, **strongly fluted, especially at the base**. Young branches, buds, leaf stalks all covered with orange-golden-brown hairs. **BARK:** light grey-brown, fairly thin with vertical fissures. **LEAVES:** narrow ovate-oblong, quite stiff, 7-15 cm, narrowed to a **leaf stalk to 2.5 cm**, upper surface shiny dark green, **lower surface densely covered with hairs, golden-brown-red to pale silvery brown, the midrib and veins prominent and raised**, side veins 10-17 pairs **clearly curving towards the leaf tip**. **FLOWERS:** cream-yellow, very small and shortly stalked in clusters beside leaves, five parts, petals equal, ovary hairy, sepals with dense red-brown hairs. **FRUIT:** **oval to rounded, to 4 cm long**, the dense **red-brown** hairs rubbing away in patches, 3-5 rather flat seeds lie within the fleshy berry.

Propagation: Seedlings (sow seed in pots), wildings or direct sowing on site.

Seed: Fruit always collected from the ground after falling. Crush to extract the seed, then dry.

treatment: not necessary.

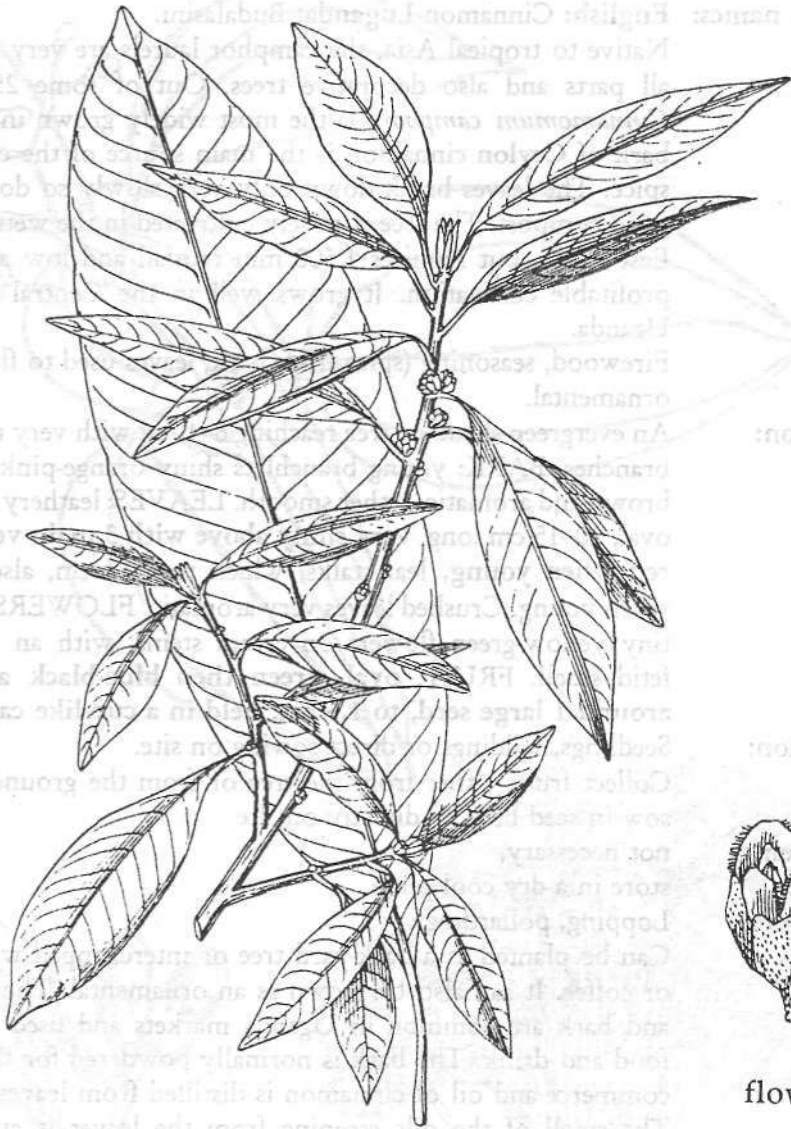
storage: Store in a dry cool place. Add ash to reduce insect damage.

Management: Seedlings of this species naturally grow under heavy shade of climax forest. If planted outside forests, shade should be provided until young trees are well established.

Remarks: Both *Chrysophyllum albidum* and *C. gorungosanum* have been tried in the highlands of Kabale, Kisoro, Rukungiri and Mbale Districts as a species for agroforestry with coffee and banana. They have also been tried for reforestation where cultivators have cut down the original forest.

Chrysophyllum gorungosanum

Sapotaceae



flower



seed



fruit