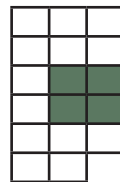


Embelia schimperi

Myrsinaceae



Indigenous

Ag: *Enkoki*

Am: *Enqoqo*

Gr: *Enqoqo*

Or: *Hanku*

Sd: *Kanko*

Tg: *Enqoqo*

Ecology

Widespread in West Africa from Nigeria and Cameroon, east to the Sudan and south to Angola, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Malawi. In Ethiopia, it is usually found as an under-storey tree in semi-humid highland forest with *Celtis*, *Podocarpus*, *Juniperus*, *Ekebergia* and *Pouteria* in Moist and Wet Weyna Dega and lower Dega agroclimatic zones in almost all regions, 1,700–2,800 m.

Uses

Firewood, medicine (fruit), against tapeworm.

Description

A tree to 7 m but often a shrubby climber. BARK: Smooth red-brown. Twigs without hairs but with raised pale dots, the breathing pores. LEAVES: Oval, wide or narrow to 8 cm x 4 cm, tip rounded, narrowing to the base, a red midrib and stalk to 2 cm. The midrib and 15 or more side veins are raised below. FLOWERS: Green-white-cream and tiny, on a hairy stalk from the leaf axil. FRUIT: Very many on stalks, each rounded, 6 cm across, red when ripe, tipped by the old style, one seed inside.

Propagation

Seedlings, wildings.

Seed

15,000–20,000 seed per kg.

Treatment: Not necessary.

Storage: Can be stored for several years.

Management

It should be grown with other light-demanding trees to give it support and the shady environment it requires.

Remarks

The fruits are commonly sold in shops as a medicine against tape worm. The leaves are reported to be edible and used as a mild stimulant among cattle herders in East Africa.

