

Indigenous

Ar: Kakamut

Eng: Falcon's-clazv acacia Km: Akika

Tg: Ghomoro

Tr: Chiet

Ecology: An Acacia widespread in tropical Africa with several varieties. Commonly found in wooded grassland, deciduous woodland and bushland and riverine forests in the central highlands, e.g. around Mai-tsebri, Hazemo plains, Mai-aini, Elabered and in the south-western lowlands, e.g. around Shambuko and Molki, 900-1,500 m. May indicate fertile soil and groundwater but can also grow on stony soil.

Uses: **Firewood**, charcoal, timber, posts, **farm tools**, **medicine** (leaves, roots), fodder (leaves, pods), nitrogen fixation, ornamental, soil improvement, river-bank stabilization, **live fence**.

Description: A tree to 25 m with feathery foliage but an open canopy often with a flattened but spreading crown. **BARK:** Yellow-brown, flaking, later grey-brown, fissured. **THORNS:** Brown, black tips, usually less than 1 cm and hooked. **LEAVES:** Compound, 13-40 pairs pinnae, leaflets very small and narrow, leaf stalk hairy with glands, to 20 cm. **FLOWERS:** Large, cream-white spikes, to 12 cm, 2 or 3 together, fragrant. **FRUIT: Brown, smooth pod, tip pointed, flat to 18 cm**, splitting to set free seed.

Propagation: Seedlings, wildings, direct sowing.

Seed: Seeds prolifically. No. of seeds per kg: 14,000-16,000. Good germination.

treatment: Immerse in hot water, allow to cool and soak for 24 hours, alternatively nicking with a sharp tool.

storage: Seed can be stored if kept cool, dry and insect-free.

Management: Fast growing on good sites, especially while young; pollarding, coppicing.

Remarks: The wood is termite resistant. The tree is host to many insects and pests. In Tanzania, it is regarded as an indicator of suitable soil for growing cotton or tobacco.

