Acacia oerfota (A. nubica)  

**Mimosoideae**

Indigenous

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**Ecology:** Commonly occurs in deciduous bushland and semi-desert scrub from Egypt, the Sudan and into Kenya. In Eritrea, it grows in the eastern and western lowlands, e.g. around Tesenei, Goluj, Omhajer, Mensura, Akurdet, Mai-lam, Sheib, Ghedged, Mahmimet, Dogali, on the Buri Peninsula and Dahlak Islands, 0-1,600 m.

**Uses:** Firewood, medicine (bark), fodder (leaves, twigs, pods), fibre (bark), vermifuge (thorns), veterinary medicine (leaves).

**Description:** A shrub to 5 m, branching from the base, irregular or flat topped. BARK: Grey-white but a green underbark with an unpleasant smell if cut. THORNS: Short, conical and thick, about 2 cm, often pointing backwards. LEAVES: Compound, leaf stalk only 2-4 cm with 2-4 pairs pinnae, all parts sometimes hairy. FLOWERS: Round, several together, white-cream-green, others pink-red. FRUIT: Pods usually straight, yellow-brown-grey, 6-13 cm, edge winged, the surface softly hairy. Pods break open to release small flat green-grey seeds, about 10-12 seeds per pod.

**Propagation:** Seedlings

**Seed:**

- **treatment:** Soak in cold water overnight.
- **storage:** Can be stored.

**Management:** Coppicing, pollarding, lopping.

**Remarks:** A bark extract is used to treat rheumatism. Has an unpleasant odour when cut. The leaves are used for treating camels affected by tuberculosis.