

# Allophylus abyssinicus

*Sapindaceae*

Indigenous

*Sh:* Garab hara

*Tg:* Azamaro, Samaria

*Tr:* Sawaria

**Ecology:** First described from Ethiopia, this is a tree of high montane forest together with Juniperus and Olea. It occurs in riverine forests on forest edges and is widely distributed southwards to South Africa. In Eritrea, it grows in the southern part of the central highlands, e.g. around Tekondaa and Zalambessa, 2,000-2,800 m.

**Uses:** **Firewood**, timber, farm tools, yokes of the traditional ox plough.

**Description:** A 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 is up to 21 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.

**Seed:**

**treatment:** No need.

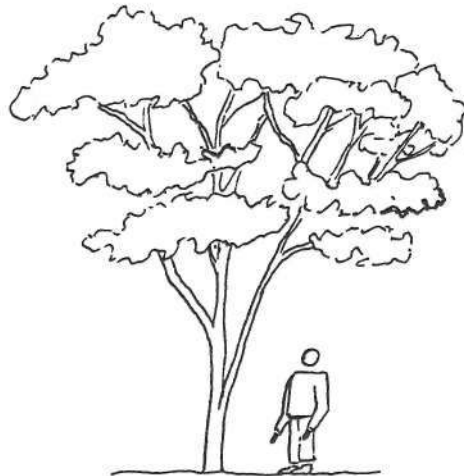
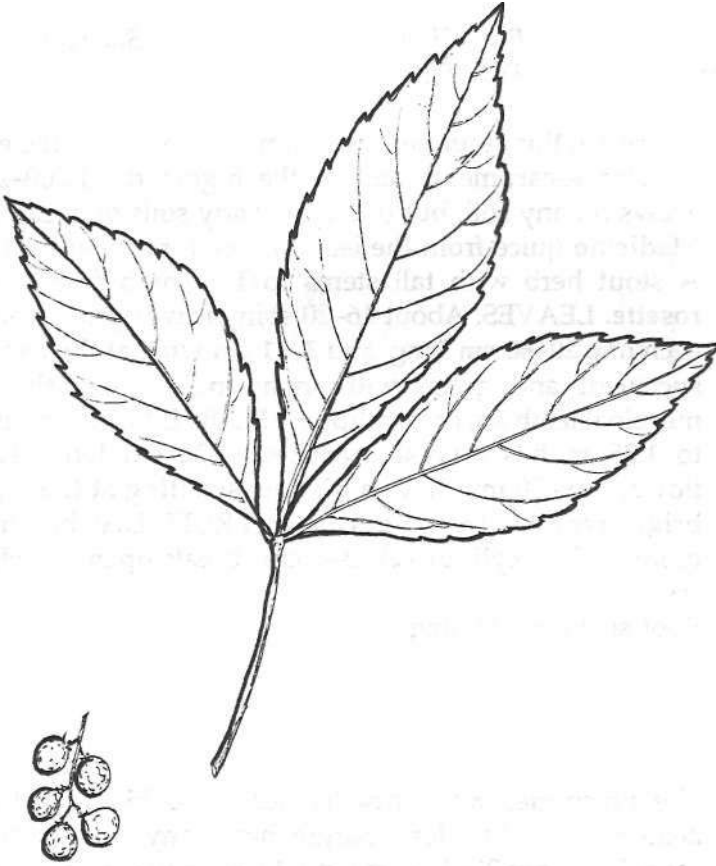
**storage:** Can be stored for about a year if kept dry, cool and free from borers.

**Management:** Pollarding, coppicing.

**Remarks:** It may make the surroundings untidy as it continually sheds leaves and ripe fruit. The timber is not durable.

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DAMTEW T.