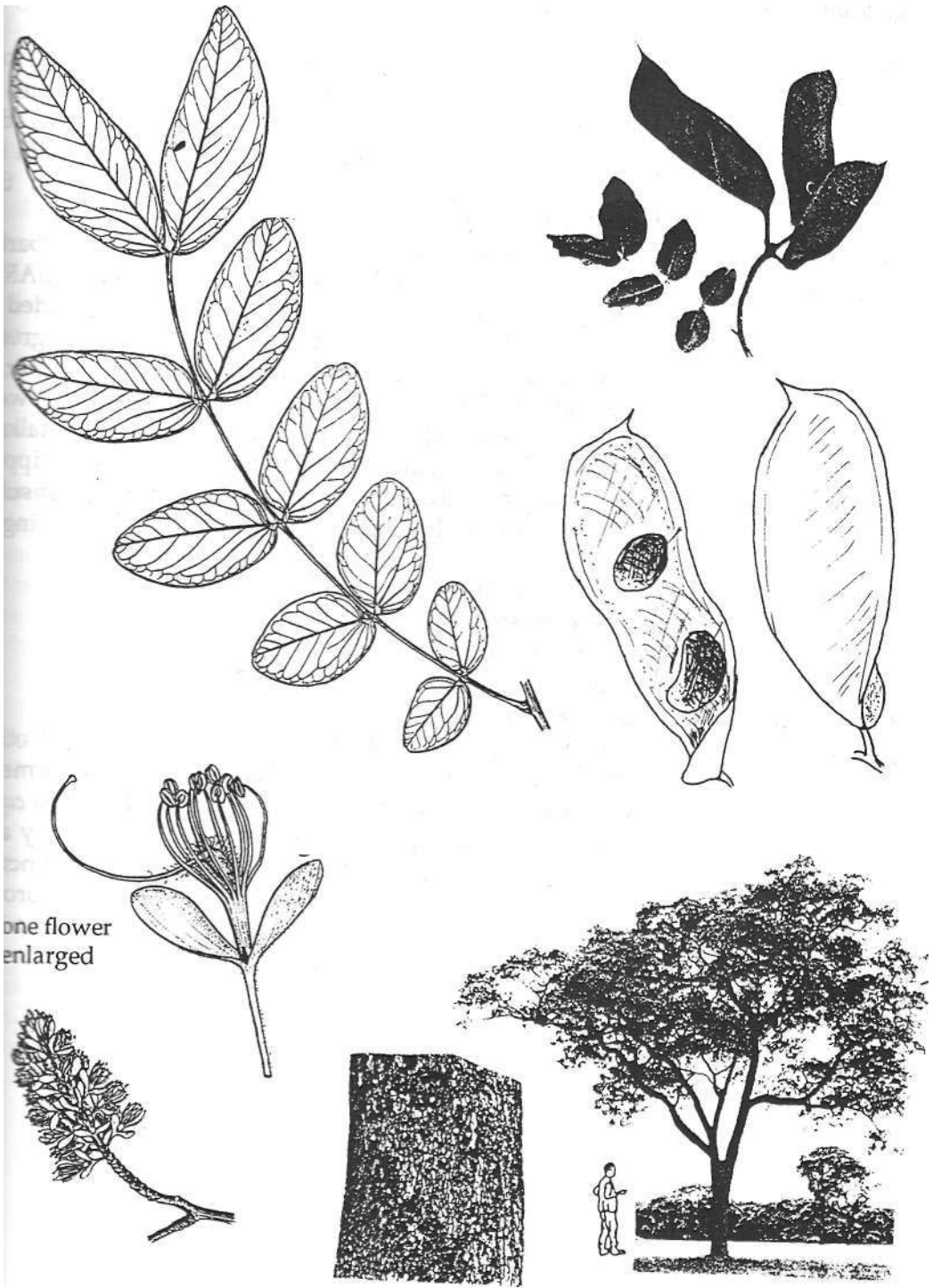


Indigenous

- Common names:** Eng: bean-pod tree; **Fipa:** mzombo; Gogo: mguji, mzabo; **Goro:** nafumo; **Hehe:** mkwe; **Mate:** mzombo, mpapa; Nyam: mtundu; Nyiha: msewe, mzindwi; **Nyak:** muguti, mkuti; Rangi: mhangala; **Sand:** xopi; **Suku:** muyombo; **Swah:** mriti, myombo, mrihi.
- Ecology:** A dominating tree in large areas of miombo woodland in Central Africa, north to the coastal forests of Kenya and south to South Africa, 0-2,350 m. In Tanzania it is widespread and abundant in all woodland areas.
- Uses:** Firewood, charcoal, timber, beehives, utensils (storage pots), medicine (bark, roots), fodder (seeds), bee forage, shade, fibre rope (bark), dye (bark).
- Description:** A deciduous tree 8-15 m with a rather flat crown, the main trunk producing **large branches** growing up and out, often twisting. **BARK:** smooth grey, later rough and flaking. **LEAVES:** dark green, shiny and pendulous when mature, **pink to scarlet when young**. Few pairs of leaflets, **usually 4**, unequal sided, **largest at the end**. Leaflet **narrowed to the tip** which is rounded or notched. Minute structure **at base of leaflets (stipel)**. **FLOWERS:** **short dense spikes** to 6 cm, often hanging down, greenish. **FRUIT:** flat, **dark brown pods** to 14 cm splitting open explosively to scatter **4-6** seeds.
- Propagation:** Seedlings, suckers.
- Seed info.:** No. of seeds per kg: 1,500-2,600.
- treatment:** no treatment required but germination is improved if the seed coat is nicked. Under ideal conditions germination in 21-30 days and 80% with good seed.
- storage:** can retain viability for one year if kept free from insects.
- Management:** Coppicing, pollarding.
- Remarks:** The wood has an interlocked grain, is difficult to season and not durable in the ground.



one flower enlarged