

Indigenous

Common names: **Ateso K, dialect Kadam:** Muirungi **English:** Khat **Lugishu:** Kitandwe, lutandwe **Rukiga:** Munyaga, ngongo **Runyankore:** Mutabungwa **Runyarwanda:** Mutabungura **Sebei:** Tume-yondet.

Ecology: Grows in highland evergreen dry forests in Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia, Malawi, Zambia and South Africa, 1,400-2,200 m. In Uganda it occurs in pure stands on Mt. Kadam.

Uses: Firewood, charcoal, timber, poles, tool handles, utensils (pestles and mortars), medicine (fresh leaves), stimulant (stalked leaves, shoots).

Description: Evergreen shrub or tree up to 18 m high with a compact crown, but stunted to 2-7 m if regularly harvested. **BARK:** grey and smooth when young, becoming dark brown and flaking at maturity. **LEAVES:** simple, opposite, 5-11 cm long, shiny green above and paler beneath, edge irregularly toothed; leaf stalks reddish, about 1 cm. **FLOWERS:** very small, **pale green to yellow**. Produced in **small clusters up to 2 cm in diameter**. **FRUIT:** three-lobed woody **capsules about 1 cm long, reddish brown** when mature, containing many small winged seeds.

Propagation Seedlings and suckers or root cuttings.

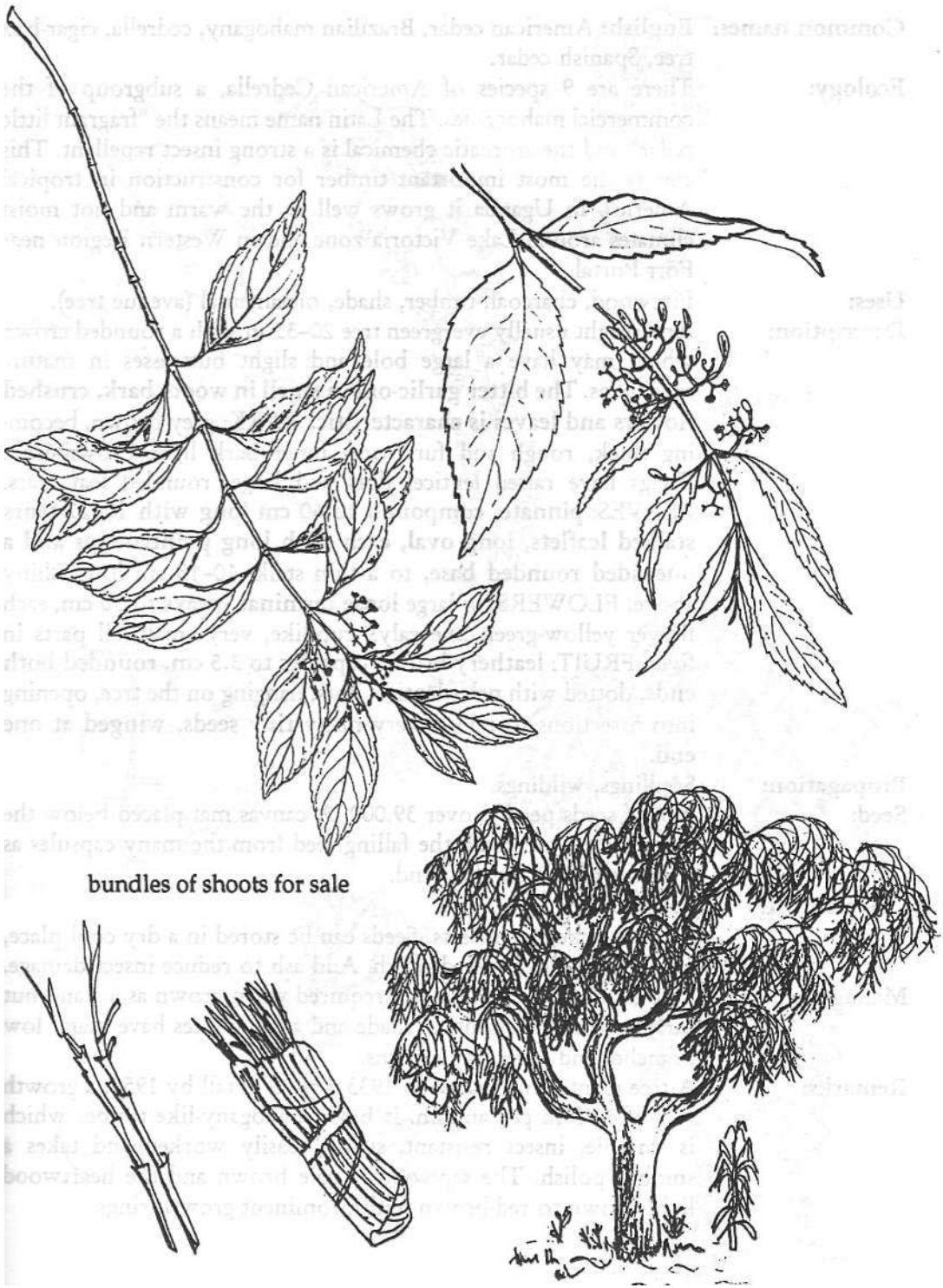
Seed: No of seeds per kg: 60,000-80,000. Germination is good, completed after two weeks,

treatment: not necessary.

storage:

Management Coppicing, pollarding, pruning.

Remarks: Said to indicate soil fertility in areas where it is found. The leaves are chewed both as a stimulant and to treat asthma, cough, stomach-ache and chest pain. Chewing of leaves is a common habit among Somalis living in Uganda.



bundles of shoots for sale