

Commiphora eminii subsp. Zimmermannii

Burseraceae

Indigenous

Common names: Gogo: mgombogombo; Goro: hlahumo, mandawiri; Iraqw: bakchandi; Pare: isume; Rangji: itonto; Suku: ng'ongong'ongo.

Ecology: A drought-resistant tree found all over Africa on rocky sites, clay or sand. In Tanzania commonly found in semi-evergreen forest and forest margins, especially in rocky places along streams at 900-1,800 m altitude such as at Morogoro, South Pare and Lushoto. It is also found in Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique and Kenya.

Uses: Firewood, timber (furniture), medicine (roots, leaves, bark), fodder (emergency), shade, soil conservation, resin, live fence, boundary marking, mole traps (trunk wood).

Description: An unarmed tree, 5-18 m, branches spreading and leafy. BARK: smooth and grey. LEAVES: light green, compound, 5-7 pointed leaflets, edge finely toothed, 6-9 cm long, resinous when crushed. FLOWERS: small, green-yellow. FRUIT: yellowish-brown, mature from June to October. Each fruit rounded and stalked, about 1.5 cm, containing 2 or 3 dark grey or black seeds.

Propagation: Large cuttings.

Seed info.: Only propagated by cuttings.

treatment:

storage:

Management: Fairly fast growing; pollarding.

Remarks: Due to its less extensive root system and relatively small canopy it can be grown with crops and leaves are good fodder. Used in some areas as a quick-growing hedge. It grows fast at the coast and is cultivated in gardens and around homesteads because it is easy to establish. (Used in some areas of central Kenya as green sticks, easily taking root, to support yams, etc.) The wood is easy to work.

Commiphora eminii subsp. Zimmermannii

Burseraceae

