

Somalia

- Common names:** **Eng:** yeheb nut.
- Ecology:** An evergreen shrub of semi-arid bushland in the Horn of Africa, south-eastern Ethiopia and Somalia, extending to the coast where it grows in semi-arid bushland. **It has been** introduced in Tanzania, especially in dry areas, as it is drought resistant. Roots go deep to underground water sources.
- Uses:** Firewood, food (seeds), fodder (leaves), bee forage, mulch, soil conservation, nitrogen fixation, live fence, dye (red, from leaves), tannin.
- Description:** A stiff erect evergreen shrub or small tree, usually about 2 m, rarely 4 m. **LEAVES:** leathery, compound, **1-6 pairs leaflets**, each to 3 cm, underside **covered with red glands**. **FLOWERS:** buds glandular, **5 yellow petals**, over 4 cm long. **FRUIT:** **Pods, 4-6 cm with thin upturned beak**. Inside **1-4 flat, oval seeds**, the "nuts", each 2-4 cm long.
- Propagation:** Seedlings, direct sowing, cuttings, self-seeding when established.
- Seed info.:** No. of seeds per kg: about 300. Good germination.
- treatment:** Immerse in hot water (75-80°C), allow to cool and soak for 12 hours.
- storage:** seeds are susceptible to insect attack and so should not be stored for long.
- Management:** Slow growing during the initial stages while establishing its massive root system. Young seedlings develop a strong taproot before shoots.
- Remarks:** The fruits are eaten by livestock, birds and wild animals. They can be dried and have a high food value.

Cordeauxia edulis

Caesalpinioideae

