

Dodonaea angustifolia (D. viscosa)

Sapindaceae

Indigenous

Common names: **Arusha:** ol getinai; **Eng:** hopbush; **Fiome:** berima; **Fipa:** nzwite; **Goro:** berimi; Hehe: luhahi, lunyahi; **Iraqw:** berima; **Lugu:** kiganhihingi, mhangehange; **Meru:** iwuwu; **Pare:** mgwiti, mnjitwe; **Rangi:** muberimo; **Samb:** mzutu, mzutwe, mzutu; **Swah:** mkengata.

Ecology: The natural range of this tree is wide: Australia, India, tropical and sub-tropical Africa. In Tanzania it is found from sea level to 2,800 m, but is more common in **the dry** mountain forests than at lower altitudes. It can thrive in a wide range of soils and climates.

Uses: Firewood, charcoal, poles, tool handles, medicine (leaves roots), bee forage, soil conservation, windbreak, live fence, toothbrushes (twigs).

Description: A thin-stemmed tree or shrub, usually 2-8 m, with a light crown. **BARK:** grey, grooved, peeling. Branchlets red **and** sticky. **LEAVES:** thin, **narrow, stiffly erect to 10 cm, tapering** to a stalk, **young leaves light green, shiny and sticky.** **FLOWERS:** male and female separate, insignificant. **FRUIT:** distinctive capsules, 2 cm with **three papery** wings. sometimes **inflated, greenish to red,** looking like blossoms, turning light brown, small seeds inside.

Propagation: Seedlings, wildings, direct sowing.

Seed info.: No. of seeds per kg: about 100,000. Germination rate 30-70% after 15 days.

treatment: not necessary.

storage: seed can be stored for up to a year.

Management: Fast growing. Little or no management required **once** established.

Remarks: The species is not browsed which makes it easy to establish. A good live fence for dry areas; susceptible **to** fire **but** regenerates rapidly after burning. It is especially useful **fat** reclaiming poor land—from marshes to sand dunes. **The** wood is heavy.

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