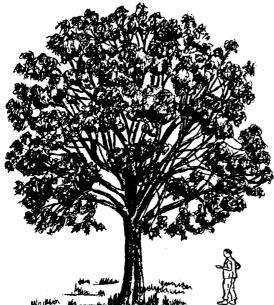
Ekebergia capensis

Meliaceae

Indigenous

Standard/Trade name: Ekebergia, Teldet.

- Соммол NAMES: Bajun: Mpotowandovu mkuu; Boni: Mrongoleh; English: Ekebergia; Kamba: Mukongu; Kikuyu: Mununga; Kipsigis: Araruet; Kisii: Omonyamavi; Luhya (Bukusu): Kumusilisisi; Luo: Tido; Maasai: Osongoroi, Ormokoriongo, Olobaiye tiongata, Olsubukiai; Marakwet: Kerbut; Meru: Muchogomo; Nandi: Teldet; Ogiek: Ororuet, Oroyuet, Otorouet, Rararuet; Sabaot: Bumet, Kipumetet; Swahili: Mpotowa ndovu mkuu; Taita: Manuki masi; Tugen: Arariet, Ternwa; Turkana: Eng'amwo.
- **DESCRIPTION:** A semi-deciduous tree, 8–30 m, with a large spreading crown. Old trees may have buttresses and large branches. BARK: Grey-brown and rough with age, cracking into pieces about 5 cm square; the slash is **red with white streaks,** branchlets dotted with whitish pores. LEAVES: Compound, mostly crowded **at the ends of branches,** on stalks to 30 cm long, leaflets **3–6 pairs** plus one, shiny green but some hairs below, up to 15 cm long, tip pointed, **leaflet blades unequal-sided**. FLOWERS: In loose sprays, up to 8 cm, each flower small, white and sweetly scented, male flowers on different plants (dioecious). FRUIT: **Rounded,** 1–2 cm long, thin-skinned and orange, on long stalks, drying and splitting to set free 2–4 seeds.
- EcoLOGY: A medium-sized to large African tree, very variable, with wide distribution from Senegal to Ethiopia and south to South Africa; first described in Cape Province, thus the name 'capensis'. Widely distributed in Kenya in a variety of habitats from lowland scrub to highland forest. Often used as a shady meeting place in open grassland, 0–1,500 m. Agroclimatic Zones II–III. Flowers in April–June and fruits in September–November in Bungoma.
- **Uses:** Firewood, charcoal, timber (construction), furniture, poles, tool handles, medicine (root), bee forage, shade, ornamental, windbreak.
- **PROPAGATION:** Seedlings, wildings.
- SEED: 2,900–8,600 seeds per kg. Fresh seeds germinate best.



treatment: Fruit pulp should be removed and seeds cleaned in water before sowing.

storage: Seed does not store long. Use fresh seed.

MANAGEMENT: Fairly fast growing.

REMARKS: Wildings used more commonly for propagation.

FURTHER READING: http://www.worldagroforestrycentre.org/Sites/ TreeDBS/AFT/AFT.htm; Backes and Ahenda, 1998; Beentje, 1994; Bekele-Tesemma et al., 1993; Fichtl and Adi, 1994; Katende et al., 1995; Kokwaro, 1993; Mbuya et al., 1994; Noad and Birnie, 1989; Palgrave and Palgrave, 2002; Sommerlatte and Sommerlatte, 1990; Storrs, 1979; van Wyk, 1993.

