Indigenous

Common names:

Ecology: An understorey shrub or small tree common in Uganda at forest

edges, particularly in Central and Western Regions, Mengo, Sesse,

Masaka and Ankole.

Uses: Food (fruit), live fence.

Description: A bushy shrub or tree to 5 m, the branches hanging down. Many

stems hairy. BARK: rather smooth. LEAVES: **dull green, more or less opposite,** long oval 2-7 cm long, the tip drawn out but blunt, shortly stalked. The thin leaves are aromatic when crushed and when held against the light gland dots are visible. FLOWERS: 3-9 together on thin stalks next to leaves, the 4-5 tiny petals are persistent, fragrant, white, sometimes a little pink. FRUIT: purpleblack, about 1.5 cm, turning hard brown like coffee berries with

the calyx enlarged.

Propagation: Seedlings, wildings.

Seed: Squash fruit when ripe and separate seeds,

treatment: not necessary,

storage: seed may store up to four months.

Management:

Remarks: Farmers should be encouraged to grow this plant. The edible fruit

is similar to that of guava and the shrub is beautiful when in flower. Plant as an orchard tree or living fence. The former name

was Eugenia bukobensis.

