

Faurea saligna

Proteaceae

Indigenous

Common names: **Arusha:** ol garian; **Chag:** mfuka, mudi; **Eng:** beachwood; **Fipa:** msega; **Hehe:** mhenyi, mwemba; **Iraqw:** behetoh; **Lugu:** mhenyi, mwemba; **Mako:** nsese, sese; **Mate:** mteteleka; **Nyiha:** sense; **Samb:** msisi, msize, msizi mgosi.

Ecology: A tall tree found in both low- and high-altitude forest as far north as Nigeria and the Sudan and south to southern Africa. It is common around forest edges of Mts. Kilimanjaro and Meru, the Usambaras and Mbulu.

Uses: Firewood, charcoal, timber (furniture, construction), poles, posts, bee forage, medicine (roots, bark), mulch, ornamental, windbreak, tannin (bark), dye (bark).

Description: A deciduous shrub or slender forest tree to 20 m with a dense crown. Bole 7-10 m, often twisted. It resembles a gum tree. **BARK:** almost black, rough with deep grooves. **LEAVES:** leathery, **shiny and drooping, long and narrow, to 12 cm**, tip pointed, edge wavy, often slightly curved, a short red stalk. **FLOWERS:** dense **silky spikes, cream-purple, honey scented and attracting bees**, calyx red and hairy. **FRUIT:** small nutlets, with silky white hairs, the reddish styles persist and appear as **woolly pinkish-white spikes**.

Propagation: Seedlings.

Seed info.: No. of seeds per kg: about 165,000.

treatment: fresh seed should be sown for best results,

storage: perishable; loses viability within a month.

Management: Slow growing.

Remarks: The species is often left standing in croplands. Wood is resistant to termites. Hard, yellow-brown wood with an attractive grain, valued for furniture and panelling.

