

Fraxinus pennsylvanica

Oleaceae

North America

- Common names: Eng: Mexican ash.
- Ecology: Ash trees are usually native to temperate zones but a few extend to the tropics. This species is fairly widely planted in Tanzania at high altitudes, 1,500-2,800 m.
- Uses: Firewood, timber, posts, fodder (leaves), bee forage, shade, ornamental, windbreak.
- Description: A spreading, shapely, deciduous tree up to 15 m. BARK: grey, darker and cracking with age. LEAVES: compound, opposite, to 30 cm, **crowded at the ends of branches, leaflets spear shaped**, up to 10 cm long, edge irregularly toothed. **Dark brown leaf buds** conspicuous before they open and new lime-green leaves appear. FLOWERS: without petals, **male stamens purple-brown**, female separate and very small, both in terminal sprays. FRUIT: single winged **and up to 5 cm on thin stalks**, hanging a long time in **clusters on the tree**.
- Propagation: Seedlings.
- Seed info.: No. of seeds per kg: 26,000-28,000.
- treatment: soak in cold water for 12 hours.
- storage: can retain viability up to 6 months at room temperature.
- Management:
- Remarks: In some areas of Tanzania this tree has been planted as a shade tree.

