

Brazil

**Common names:** **English:** Jacaranda.**Ecology:** A popular tree widely grown as an ornamental throughout the high and lowland tropics. It grows in most soils except water-logged ones, and is deep rooted. It prefers highland areas but can also grow in some drier ones. It is common in most towns of Uganda, particularly Fort Portal, 1,100-1,600 m.**Uses:** Firewood, charcoal, timber (tool handles, carving), poles, bee forage, ornamental, windbreak, shade.**Description:** A deciduous tree up to 20 m with spreading branches making a light crown. **BARK:** Pale grey and smooth, rough and peeling with age. **LEAVES:** Bipinnate and feathery on a stalk to 40 cm, up to 30 pairs of pinnae bearing the little pointed leaflets. **FLOWERS:** Striking blue-violet, in clusters, each flower bell shaped to 4 cm, usually on the bare tree before leaf growth. **FRUIT:** Rounded, woody capsules to 7 cm across with a wavy edge, brown-black when mature, splitting on the tree to set free many light winged seeds. Capsules may hang on the tree for 2 years.**Propagation:** Seedlings, coppicing, wildings.**Seed:** Seeds profusely. Germination rate 50-85 %. No. of seeds per kg: 63,000-80,000.**treatment:** not necessary.**storage:** seed does not store well. Sow fresh seed for best germination results.**Management:** Very fast growing on good sites; lopping, pollarding, coppicing, pruning (young trees).**Remarks:** A greedy feeder so that few plants or crops can grow below, particularly in dry areas.

