

**Indigenous**

**Common names:** **Ateso:** Ekamaturu **Luo A:** Anino **Luo J:** Achak **Luo L:** Emuturu  
**Madi:** Obu-obwa **Sebei:** Mutumu, mutumbwa.

**Ecology:** Widely distributed from southern Ethiopia, Zaire to South Africa, 0-2,700 m. In Uganda it grows in wooded grassland and woodland, preferring raised and well-drained ground. A common tree throughout the dry areas.

**Uses:** Firewood, charcoal, timber (furniture), carving (heartwood).

**Description:** A small semi-deciduous shrub or tree to 14 m, the bole often twisted, with a light rounded crown. **BARK:** grey, corky, **widely grooved and scaly, exuding drops of creamy resin if cut.** Branchlets covered with yellow hairs. **LEAVES:** often 3 together, leathery, very variable, long oval 5-17 cm, **dull green above, but silvery hairy below, the veins clearly parallel, the edge rolled under** on a stalk to 2.5 cm. **FLOWERS:** small cream-white in hairy sprays to 17 cm. **FRUIT:** small, red, **bean shaped, flattened, shiny black when ripe,** on branched sprays, one very hard seed inside.

**Propagation:** Mainly by seed sown on site and shaded; root suckers.

**Seed:** Can be collected from the mother tree or from the ground as dry-fruits. Germination is good, completed after 3 weeks,

**treatment:** not required.

**storage:** on a cement floor in a dry cool place. Viability is lost after a few weeks, so plant soon after collection.

**Management:** Tend directly sown seedlings until established. Coppicing, pollarding.

**Remarks:** This species is becoming increasingly rare because its habitat is dwindling and planting should be encouraged. The dark red wood is easy to work, tough, durable and termite resistant.

*Ozoroa insignis* subsp. *reticulata*

Anacardiaceae

