

Indigenous

- Common names:** **Bende:** mbula; **Eng:** fever tree; **Fipa:** mwula; **Haya:** munanzi; **Hehe:** msawola, msawula; **Iraqw:** amafa-aa; **Kere:** muhasi; **Mate:** mbula; **Nyak:** mbula; **Nyam:** mbula, mubula, muvula, muwula, mnazi ya porini; **Nyiha:** maula; **Rangi** mafaa, mumora; **Suku:** mnazi; **Zara:** mbula; **Zinza:** munazi.
- Ecology:** A tree occurring north to Kenya and Senegal and south to the Transvaal in all types of woodland and evergreen thicket, 0-1,900 m. In Tanzania it grows on sandy soils in open deciduous woodland near the coast, in Kondoa district and around Lake Victoria.
- Uses:** Firewood, charcoal, timber (building rafters, furniture), poles, food (fruit, seed), medicine (fruit, bark), fodder (leaves, fruit), shade, ornamental, beehives (bark), tannin.
- Description:** A large evergreen tree to 15 m with a tall **straight trunk, erect branches and dense, rounded crown.** **BARK:** rough, dark grey-brown, **young shoots covered with woolly yellow hair**, old bark flaking off in large squares. **The sap** is reddish. **LEAVES:** **oval and alternate**, with clear **parallel veins**, shiny green above but **hairy grey-white below**, to 8 cm long, tip blunt or notched, on a short stalk. **FLOWERS** small, white-pink, in short **flat-topped heads** to 6 cm across. Flower stalks and calyx with yellow-brown woolly hairs. **FRUIT:** oval to 5 cm, with grey scales over a pitted **yellow-red-brown skin.** The fibrous yellow flesh is sweet but sharp and contains a hard stone with one edible seed kernel.
- Propagation:** Seedlings, wildings
- Seed info.:** No. of seeds per kg: 250-350. Germination is poor and very slow—up to 6 months.
- treatment:** not necessary.
- storage:** seed can be stored.
- Management:**
- Remarks:** At certain times of the year the trees give off a very unpleasant smell. The wood is light but borer proof, making very good rafters and fences. In Zambia it is considered an indicator of a high watertable and is often left in fields. The tree is fire resistant. The fruit can be eaten raw or cooked with porridge. The flesh is rich in vitamin C and the seed kernel is rich in oil.

