

# Phoenix reclinata

*Palmae*

Indigenous

Common names: **Arusha:** olpiroo; **Bara:** millan; **Eng:** wild date **palm;** **Goro:** intsanti; Haya: makindu; **Iraqw:** thiaanthi; **Suku:** bukindu.

Ecology: A palm usually growing in dense clumps beside swamps and rivers from the coast to 3,000 m. Found throughout tropical Africa, it will grow on open rocky hillsides and cliffs as well as in rainforests in high rainfall areas, but only along water courses in dry country.

Uses: Firewood, timber (local doors, general), food (fruit), ornamental, soil conservation, fibres (leaves, leaf bases), roofing (leaves), basketry, mats (leaves), dye.

**Description:** The mature palm trunk may reach 10 m, slender and **often bent over ("reclinata")**, about 25 cm in diameter, covered with very rough leaf scars. LEAVES: to 2.7 m long, growing out from a fibrous leaf sheath, the crown of about 25 leaves arching over, leaflets narrow, **folded, bright shiny green, to 30 cm, stiff and pointed.** FLOWERS: male and female on different trees. FRUIT: yellow-brown, **about 2 cm, edible.** Seedlings, suckers.

**Propagation:**

Seed **info.:** No. of seeds per kg: about 27,000. Germination is very good but takes about 2 months.

**treatment:**

storage:

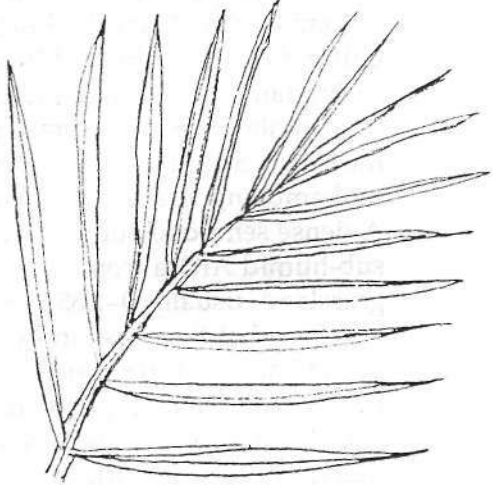
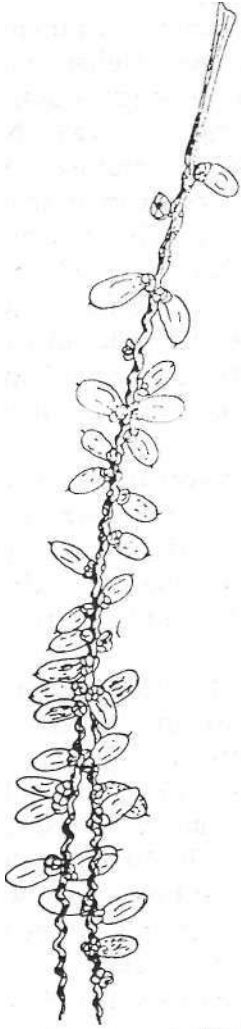
not necessary.

seed stores well if kept dry, cool and insect free.

Management:

Remarks:

Strong fibres from the leaves are used all over Africa **for** making baskets, mats, etc.



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