

Indigenous

**Common names:** **Ateso:** Emusogot **Ateso K dialect Kadam:** Ekingol **English:** Wild date palm, Senegal palm, Mukindu palm **Kwamba:** Enkinu **Luganda:** Lukindu **Lugishu:** Makendu **Lunyuli:** Mujiti **Luo A:** Otit **Luo J:** Tit **Luo L:** Tit **Lusoga:** Lusansa **Madi:** Itchi **Runyankore:** Ekikindu **Runyarwanda:** Mukindo **Runyoro:** Lukindu **Rutoro:** Mukindu.

**Ecology:** A palm usually growing in dense clumps beside swamps and rivers. Found throughout tropical Africa, it grows in humid lowland woodlands, highland forests and on open rocky hillsides, 1,100-2,200 m.

**Uses:** Charcoal, timber (local doors, roofing, windows), fence posts, food (fruit), drink (wine), 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 in 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.**

**Propagation:** Seedlings, suckers.

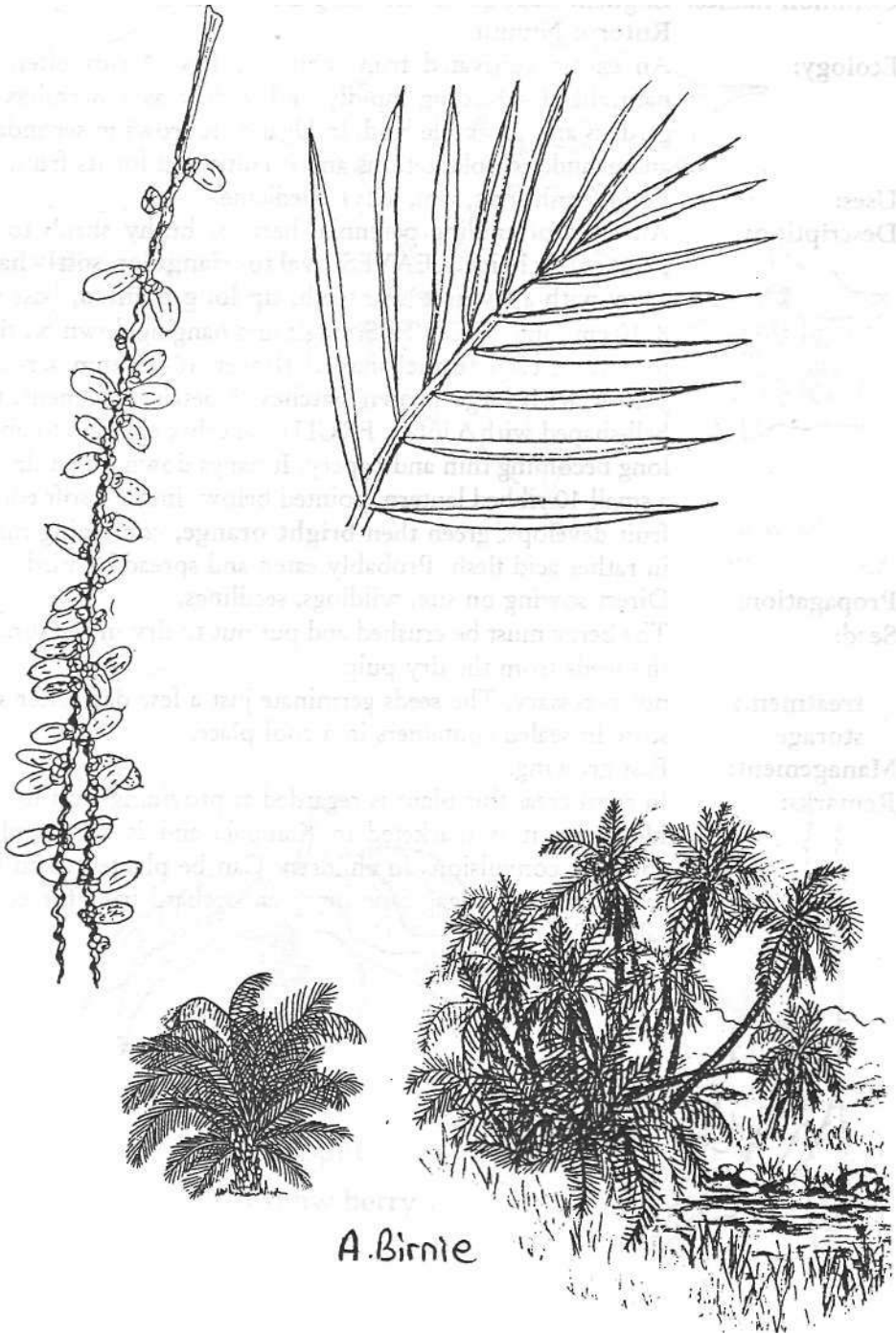
**Seed:** No. of seeds per kg: 900-5,000.

**treatment:** not necessary,

**storage:** seed stores well.

**Management:** Thinning if planted or growing in groups.

**Remarks:** Strong fibres from the leaves are used all over Africa for making baskets, mats, etc. This tree has been over-harvested in Uganda and requires immediate attention by replanting and restricting removal of all leaves.



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