

Psydrax schimperiana subsp. schimperiana

Rubiaceae

(*Canthium schimperianum*)

Indigenous

Bl: Serekana

Sh: Makuak

Tg: Zahak

Tr: Sarakan

Ecology: A small tree that grows in Acacia or Terminalia-Combretum woodland. It is more common at the edges of lower highland forests. In Eritrea, it grows on the eastern escarpment, e.g. in Semenawi-bahri and on the western side of hills around Mensa and Rora-habab, often in association with *Euclea schimperi* and *Oka africana*, 1,600-2,500 m.

Uses: **Firewood**, poles (house construction), **farm tools**, tool handles, fodder, shade.

Description: A tall evergreen shrub or tree to 6 m. **BARK:** Dark green, rough and granular. **LEAVES:** **Opposite pairs** of ovate leaves, shiny above, dull below, up to 8 cm long and 4 cm across, narrowed to a blunt tip, base narrower, rounded to a short stalk, **edge wavy, veins looped. Stipules triangular, between youngest leaves.** **FLOWERS:** Green-white in dense **fragrant clusters, 20-30**, buds rounded, 4-5 petals, often bent back. Thin **flower stalks about 1 cm often remain when flowers fall.** **FRUIT:** Small, **rounded, about 1 cm** across in 2 sections, fleshy, becoming woody.

Propagation: Seedlings.

Seed:

treatment:

storage:

Management: Coppicing.

Remarks: The wood is termite-resistant and thus very durable.

