

Indigenous

Common names: **Ateso:** Ebolo, ebeliodole, ekomokoi, eomokoi, edoil, eutukidole
Lugwere: Mutma **Luo A:** Munyu **Luo J:** Katama **Luo L:** Ebele
Lusoga: Mutamatama **Madi:** Lago.

Ecology: A small tree of scrub and moist grassland with scattered trees found from the Sudan, Zaire and into West Africa. In Uganda, it occurs in wooded grassland and woodland savannas and is common in North Western, Northern and North Eastern Regions.

Uses: Firewood, charcoal, timber, food (fruit), fodder (fruit).

Description: A shrub or multi-stemmed tree 2-9 m with thick drooping branchlets. **BARK:** grey-brown, **very fibrous**, deeply fissured. **LEAVES:** shiny dark green above, paler below, wide oval 10-21 cm long, the **tip pointed** and **base rounded to a red-purple** leaf stalk to 2 cm. **FLOWERS:** **white-yellow, very fragrant**, in solitary rounded **terminal heads 4-5 cm across**, on a stalk 1-2 cm. Each flower is about 1 cm, the **styles hanging out** of the tubular corolla. **FRUIT:** a compound **oval-round ball 5-8 cm across, red** with sweet edible flesh, the **rough surface covered with 5-sided pits**. Very many **tiny 1 mm seeds** lie in the flesh around the solid core.

Propagation: Wildings, seedlings.

Seed: The seeds are even smaller than those of Eucalyptus or tobacco. When the fruit is ripe and soft, it should be mashed and floated in a pail of water. The seeds will then separate and sink to the bottom after which they can be collected and gradually dried.

treatment: not necessary.

storage: store in sealed containers in a cool place. Plant within 2 months.

Management: Coppicing, lopping, pollarding.

Remarks: Has been widely used in the wild but could be grown as a plantation crop or in orchards to provide fruit for people and fodder for animals. Its distribution is restricted to the northern parts of the country, therefore it may not grow well outside this natural range. In Soroti and Kumi Districts, the fruit are fed to animals.

Sarcocephalus latifolius (*Nauclea latifolia*)

Rubiaceae

