

Schinus molle

Anacardiaceae

Peru, Andes

Common names: **English:** Pepper tree.

Ecology: An evergreen tree commonly planted in warm dry climates throughout the world. It will grow in almost any soil but prefers well-drained sites. It is extremely drought resistant once established and reaches maturity in less than 20 years. It will grow in areas receiving rain below 1,000 mm in North Eastern and Northern Regions and in parts of Luwero, Mubende, Moyo and Kasese Districts.

Uses: Firewood, charcoal, spice (fruit), bee forage, ornamental, shade, soil conservation, windbreak, insect repellent (leaves).

Description: A tree with attractive light **weeping foliage** to 15 m, the trunk short, the crown spreading. **BARK:** dark brown, peeling, very **sticky latex** forms if the bark is damaged. **LEAVES:** compound to 30 cm, many **narrow leaflets to 7 cm**, with a peppery smell if crushed. **FLOWERS:** very small, green-yellow. **FRUIT:** hanging on female trees, small **round berries green to red then black**, edible.

Propagation: Seedlings.

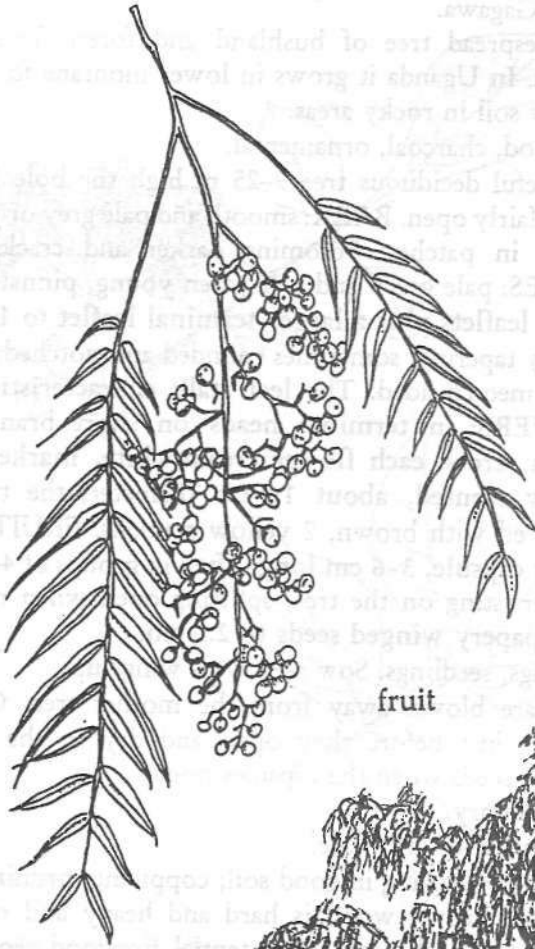
Seed: Germination rate 40-80%. No. of seeds per kg: 31,000-44,000.

treatment: not necessary.

storage: seed can be stored.

Management: A fast-growing tree. Pollarding, lopping and coppicing.

Remarks: The tree should not be planted too close to buildings because branches tend to fall as the tree ages.



fruit

